

THE JOURNAL

Friday, May 25, 2001

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Inside El Cerrito expands parking restrictions around BART stations [A12]

Opinion Council member calls for renewed civility at meetings [A4]



SOLAR PANELS cover one side of Don Coleman's rooftop in Berkeley's Elmwood neighborhood. The Light Energy System converts DC power into AC power through an inverter.

Silver lining to crisis

Residences and businesses powered by the sun are no longer a day dream

By Alex Leviton
CORRESPONDENT

On a recent cloudy day, Don Coleman, a 37-year-old software engineer consultant, showed off his electric meter. He looked straight at where the sun was barely visible through the cloud cover and knew that his meter would be running backwards. Instead of sapping electricity from PG&E's dwindling supply, Coleman's 300 square feet of modular rooftop solar panels was adding electricity to it. Whenever Coleman's system produces an overflow of electricity, it goes back into the "grid," and his meter starts to turn backwards.

"When the grid is down, my neighbors sometimes suggest that I could run an extension cord to them..." said Coleman. "That's a really good feeling."

Three years before the term "rolling blackout" entered the California vernacular, Don Coleman, who owns a 1907 brown-shingle in Elmwood, became a part of a growing international movement of homeowners who use some form of renewable energy—usually from the sun or wind—to power their house.

In the Oakland Hills, the Chabot Space and Science Center has gotten into the act. The 118-year-old Center was reopened at its new location in Joaquin Miller Park in August of 2000. Last month, CSSC opened a solar power exhibit. Visitors can literally walk through the whole energy cycle, CSSC board member Terry Galloway said, including an exhibit of 324 royal blue glass-encased solar panels, called photovoltaics.

The panels generate 200 kilowatt-hours per day, enough to produce about 5 percent of CSSC's energy needs, with plans underway to quadruple the ex-

isting system.

"The solar roof is an integral part of our energy exhibit, which starts with the sun as one of our stars," said Galloway, a chemical engineer whose home in the Hiller Highlands south of the Hotel Claremont has been powered by solar panels for the past 25 years. He added that CSSC also aims to teach about solar power from a chemistry as well as environmental standpoint. The exhibit explains, "how we can capture the sun's energy, how we can use the sun's energy to produce electricity and heat for the building, and how that fits into our role for the Space and Science Center."

Galloway said he's already had several CSSC visitors tell him they added solar panels to their roofs because of the exhibit.

It's impossible to know just how many solar panel owners there are in Berkeley. Many are "guerilla solar," meaning residents added solar panels to their homes without going through the proper channels, or they installed their systems before PG&E's special renewable energy rate took effect in 1998.

For those who do stay connected to the grid, the California Energy Commission offers a hefty rebate that about to get even heftier. In 1998, the CEC's "Emerging Renewables Buy-Down Program" began giving rebates to homeowners and businesses investing in solar power. In Berkeley alone, nine PG&E customers have received the rebate, and another three are currently in the application process.

A big windfall for potential renewable energy users happened on April 10 of this year when

Gov. Gray Davis signed two bills providing over \$850 million to various energy efficiency programs. The CEC rebate program received \$30 million, \$22 million of which will go directly to the consumer rebates. "The bill says that it would be used to increase rebates," said Emerging Renewables account manager Sandy Miller, "but it also gives the Commission flexibility, and potentially provide more money to schools, for example."

The rebate has increased substantially: up to \$4.50 per watt or 50 percent off an eligible renewable system's purchase price, whichever is less. In October 1998, Don Coleman was one of the first to take advantage of the rebate. When it was just \$3 a watt, Coleman bought \$28,000 of solar panels and received a rebate check for almost \$9,000.

Coleman also invested in a battery backup system, solely for

the "gloat factor" during the days when a neighborhood blackout was an anomaly, not a way of life. Even after his battery system has kept the electricity running during several energy crisis blackouts, he views his polluting batteries, which are hard to maintain and inefficient, as the only glitch in his otherwise trouble-free system.

"I had to pay a lot of money for that smugness," said Coleman.

As Californians accept rolling blackouts as almost routine, the same people who once told solar power users their systems were "weird" are now calling them clairvoyant or trailblazers. But solar power proponents don't have time to focus on feeling vindicated or smug. They're too busy using the crisis to get out the word about the potential of

See SOLAR, Page A9



BERKELEY RESIDENT Don Coleman enjoys the conveniences in his kitchen as many of his neighbors do, except Coleman can use his microwave during the PG&E rolling blackouts, because he installed a solar energy system.

How to make the switch to solar

NCSEA offers tours of homes powered by solar panels, passive solar or solar water heaters every October. 510-869-2759 www.norcal-solar.org.

The renewable energy mecca is Real Goods, an educational and consumer renewable resource company and catalog, with retail stores in Hopland, Berkeley, Los Gatos and West Los Angeles. The Berkeley store is located at 1324 10th St. 510-558-0700 www.realgoods.com.

If you're interested in seeing how much it would cost you to go solar, the California Energy Commission offers the "Clean Power Estimator" on its Web site. Designed by renewable energy analyst Tom Hoff, the Estimator allows potential homeowners to enter raw data—amount of current electric bill, financing information, cost of renewable system before rebate—and get an estimate of the system's monthly cost, energy output and how

much in emissions it will eliminate. www.energy.ca.gov/clean-power/.

The California Energy Commission lists helpful information about its rebate program, eligibility, a comprehensive list of solar energy installers and designers, and financial loan information online at www.energy.ca.gov/greengrid/ or call 800-555-7794.

Sun Light & Power can be reached at 510.845.2997.

Former Villa Motel checks back in as affordable housing

By Clare Curley and Tom Lochner
STAFF WRITER

ALBANY — Six years and four project managers after it was conceived, the city's first affordable-housing project will be christened at the former site of a motel that police once dubbed a "den of iniquity."

After a seemingly endless process, the new building at 1155 San Pablo Ave. is home to 16 units of low-income residents.

Mayor Allan Maris, Assemblywoman Dion Aroner, D-Berkeley, and other city, county and state dignitaries planned to attend the opening ceremony yesterday at the apartments, which are located at the Albany-Berkeley city line.

Tenants vary according to unit, so that the apartment will include large families, homeless veterans, elderly people and people with HIV or AIDS. Three of the units are reserved for households that include a person with a developmental disability.

The development is a milestone for Albany, which has little undeveloped land suitable for housing and has struggled to meet state affordable housing goals.

In 1995, Creekside's developer, Berkeley-based nonprofit Resources for Community Development, got an option to buy the site, then occupied by the run-down Villa Motel.

Earlier that year, Albany po-

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City calls for better owner communication with Plaza merchants

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — After acknowledging that there is little the city can do about lease agreements between Plaza owner Regency Centers and longtime Plaza business owners, the City Council essentially asked Regency to do the right thing by the merchants and the community. Of course, what the right thing is can vary depending on who is doing the defining.

The departure or pending departure of many longtime shops at the center, which is in the middle of a renovation project expected to be complete early next year, created an outcry from merchants and customers.

That brought the matter before the City Council on Monday, where merchants and a representative of plaza majority owner Regency Centers spoke on the issue.

The council heard from Abe Pacetti, Regency's on-site property manager at the Plaza, and Plaza business owners about rising rents at the Plaza.

Pacetti, reading a statement from Regency Vice President Tom Engberg, said that some displacement is a regrettable but inevitable fact in major renovations, and that Regency has tried to be open and communicate with tenants as best it can given

See TALKING, Page A8

Sister Cities parade a growing event

■ The annual multicultural celebration is June 2

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — The third annual Sister Cities Parade & Multicultural Festival on June 2 promises to be the biggest and best yet. Quickly becoming a local favorite, the event will include Peruvian music, Indian dance, Native American pow-wow dancing, a bell choir, Chinese martial arts, craft booths, international food, blues music and performance poetry.

Those enjoying the festivities will include consuls from four nations, including Vice Consul Shelley Jackson of Australia and Deputy Consul General Boqing Deng of China. El Cerrito Mayor Larry Damon and Richmond Vice Mayor Nat Bates will also attend as co-parade marshals.

"It's going to be fun — this is going to be a really good event," said Dr. Eve Ma, president of Celebrating Culture & Community. CC&C is organizing the parade and festival and the cities of El Cerrito and Richmond are co-sponsors. The California Arts Council is also helping to fund the event. "We hear the term multiculturalism all the time, but a lot of times people don't really understand what that means," Ma said. "They think in terms of black, white, Asian and Latino —



LION DANCERS, seen here in last year's parade, will be back this year.

they may not realize that it's much more complicated and much more interesting than that."

The parade will start at Alvarado School on Carlson Boulevard in Richmond on Saturday, June 2, at 11 a.m. It will wend its way to the El Cerrito Community Center (7007 Moers Lane) where the festival begins at noon and runs until 5 p.m. The parade

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WORTH CHECKING OUT

Relay For Life

Walkers and runners will go around the clock in the battle against cancer during the American Cancer Society's Relay For Life. Beginning on June 2 at 10 a.m., and ending 24 hours later on Sunday, June 3, at 10 a.m., teams of eight-15 people will gather at El Cerrito High School, 540 Ashbury Ave. Participants can walk or run relay-style around the track and take part in fun activities when it's not their turn. The public is invited to attend the luncheon ceremony, Saturday at 8:26 p.m. The track is surrounded with luminarias, as participants remember loved ones who were lost to cancer and honor survivors. Luminarias can be purchased for a donation by calling Cynthia Shane-Smith at 925-934-7640 or by e-mailing cynthia.shane-smith@cancer.org. Registration forms and information for the Relay For Life can also be obtained from Shane-Smith, Janice Jordan at 525-2608, or the American Cancer Society, 800-ACS-2345.

Preschooler fun

The Albany Library, 1247 Marin Ave., will present a new series of stories and films for preschoolers (ages 3-5), at 11 a.m. on Saturday mornings

through June 2.

CCCT volunteers

Carpentry/construction volunteers turn raw materials into beautiful sets at Contra Costa Civic Theatre in El Cerrito. The theater is recruiting set construction directors for one or more shows per year. These volunteers need some construction or home building experience, can read and explain design plans, etc. Also needed are Set Construction Workers with basic home repair skills and a willingness to work as part of an enthusiastic team. Times are flexible. Leave a message for Theater Administrator Beth Cohen at 510-524-6654.

Children's Science Fair

Kensington Nursery School is pleased to invite young children ages 2-7 and their parents to experience the joy of discovery at its 10th annual Science Fair, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, June 2 at 52 Arlington Ave., Kensington. Children will learn through their play as the experience "hands-on" science-related activities at more than 15 stations and exhibits, including: rockets, electricity, magnets, volcanoes, deep sea fishing, water world and the animal room. In addition, there will be two special attractions:

Astro Jump and Space World, an adventurous journey into the final frontier. There will also be a barbecue. Admission is \$5 for children; parents are free. For more information call Debbie Gano at 524-7963 from 10 a.m.-1 p.m., Monday-Friday.

Family, toddler playtime

Cameron School, at 7140 Gladys Ave. in El Cerrito, is the site of a free family-toddler program serving children who live within the West Contra Costa Unified School District. The sessions, at which parents and their children learn and play together, are from 8:45 to 10:15 a.m., 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and 12:30-2 p.m. Monday, Wednesday and Thursday. Families may attend as few or as many sessions as they wish. The program is sponsored by the special education and adult education departments of the school district. The school also has programs for children up to 5 years old who have problems with speech and language, learning, hearing, vision and behavior. For more information, call Betty Henderson at 510-233-1955.

Focus on Dr. Melanie Hernand

We have a new face in the neighborhood. Dr. Melanie Hernand, Chiropractor. Dr. Hernand specializes in low force technology of officially called Network Spinal Analysis (NSA).

NSA is a specific system for adjusting the spine to relieve tension in the spine and nervous system. Aimed at breaking old tension patterns and restoring communication between the brain and the body, so that the nervous system can express itself closer to 100 percent.

Her work is deeper and more profound than any mere back adjustment it is the whole of body/mind. In some cultures, body and mind are the same. Shape, position and tone of the spine are reflective of the shape, position and tone of the body/mind.

Dr. Hernand graduated from Life Chiropractic College and previously was in Alameda. She owns a home in Albany and spends her leisure time, cooking, hiking, traveling (everywhere, but usually places with mountains to climb), reading and entertaining. Believe me, Melanie is quite a well-rounded person. You can reach her at Inner Balance Chiropractic, 904 Masonic Avenue, 367-3303. Welcome to Albany, Melanie.

ROXANNE WILEY
Albany Chamber



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

DR. MELANIE HERNAND
of Inner Balance Chiropractic.

Citizen, Youth of the Year

Congratulations to Ruth Meniketti and Alexandra Jeffers.

These two women were awarded Citizen and Youth of the Year 2001 respectively by the Chamber of Commerce for their outstanding volunteerism for the city of Albany.

Ruth has been a mainstay at the Parks and Recreation Commission for well over 30 years,

as well as devoting her time to Scouting, the library and the creeks. She said very modestly that she did not know what all the fuss is about, and that "there are hundreds of volunteers in the community just like me." Well, not quite Ruth. Thanks for being here.

The other side of the spectrum is young Alexandra, who at her tender age volunteers helping young disabled kids to swim, play and sing.

She sang us a beautiful song that she wrote herself about one of her charges who is autistic. Very moving and beautifully sung by Alex. This selfless young person illustrates to us all, that young people can, and do make a difference in our community.

Golden Gate Fields was the host for last week's mixer honoring these women and what a nice event it was.

PG&E will visit Chamber

At noon on Wednesday, May 30, PG&E representative Shirley Fudge-Mueller will answer our questions about ways to save energy in the upcoming months when our energy supplies grow short and the blackouts begin.

Bring questions and your lunch to the Chamber office, 1108 Solano Ave.

Republicans meet on racial privacy issue

KENSINGTON — The Kensington-El Cerrito Congress of Republicans will sponsor a dinner at 7 p.m. today at Hacienda Restaurant, 12020 San Pablo Ave., Richmond.

The dinner is open to the public.

Kevin T. Nguyen, the execu-

tive director of the American Civil Rights Institute, will speak on the Racial Privacy Initiative.

The initiative, proposed by University of California Regent Ward Connerly, the institute's chairman, will be on the California ballot at the next statewide election in 2002.

The cost of the dinner, for which reservations are not required, is \$14 per person.

For more information and reservations, call 510-524-5689.

POLICE REPORTS

Pair of armed robberies reported

EL CERRITO — Police are still searching for an armed robber that held up Goody Donuts on 10963 San Pablo Ave. late May 4.

A cashier told police a man wearing a dark-colored ski mask entered and brandished a tarnished chrome semi-automatic handgun with a 4-inch barrel. She described him as dark-complected, of medium build and wearing a black sweatshirt and dark blue jeans.

He reportedly pointed the gun at the 19-year-old employee and ordered her to step back and open the cash register. According to the report, she complied and he removed up to \$400 in cash and fled on foot.

The El Cerrito Police Department put out a report to surrounding agencies but have gotten no leads on the case.

The morning of May 9 two men robbed the 7-Eleven on 7022 Stockton Ave. of \$500, according to a report.

Around 9:45 a.m., one entered and distracted an employee while the other man allegedly walked to the back of the store and pried open the office door, took the cash from the office and fled through a rear door.

The other left through the

front door. Witnesses think they made off in a 1980s gray or silver four-door Mercury 2 missing a right front hub cap. No arrest has been made.

On May 10 a job applicant at a Chevron Service Station on 5835 San Pablo Ave. lessened his chances for employment when he allegedly swiped a bike outside the store on his way out.

Around 7:30 a.m., the 27-year-old man filled out a job application inside the station. As he was leaving the suspect removed an unlocked bike parked in front that wasn't his and took off, police said. He didn't get the job.

Police are trying to uncover who is responsible for a rash of robberies at an El Cerrito retirement home.

Sometime the last week in April, the purse of a 27-year-old woman was reportedly stolen from her room at the home, located at 6510 Gladys Ave.

This is the third incident in recent months. Police arrested an employee they suspected in the theft of cash from another woman's room several months ago. There wasn't enough evidence to prove wrongdoing, but the facility laid off the worker.

Now, despite no further suspects, El Cerrito Det. Wayne

Mann says two incidents of theft since she left may be linked to an accomplice of the former employee.

"The home is doing an internal audit, and an investigator will go over and talk to some people," he said.

In addition, the home is considering tightening security, such as having prospective employees sign a pre-employment agreement and agree to a background check.

A 31-year-old Albany woman had reason to celebrate when she found her purse containing over \$1,000 in cash and other property, police said. An employee in an El Cerrito dentist's office, she told police the purse had been stolen while she was working with some patients.

She later discovered she had merely misplaced it and alerted police to her mistake.

A 37-year-old man who received a DUI May 7 was cited after reportedly driving 67 mph in a 35 mph zone. Police stopped him at San Pablo Avenue and Waldo Lane around 2 a.m.

A 22-year-old woman told police her 21-year-old boyfriend slapped her during a fight the night of May 8. No arrest has been made.

Firm's trucks shot at, vandalized

By K. Osborn
CORRESPONDENT

ALBANY — On the morning of May 14 a business owner at a business on the 1000 block of San Pablo Avenue reported that vandals had flattened several tires on his vehicles and there appeared to be bullet holes in the body of the trucks. There were no witnesses.

At about 5 p.m. on May 14 officers responded to the 700 block of Pierce Street on reports of a domestic dispute. Officers contacted a 23-year-old Oakland man and a 21-year-old Albany woman who were involved in a physical dispute. Officers arrested the man for battery and threats and transported him to the Berkeley jail.

At about 6 p.m. on May 15 an Albany boy reported that while he was near Solano and Kains avenues he was approached by a man who offered him a fake ID in exchange for sex. The boy described the subject as a white male with a small "Hitler" style moustache, wearing large glasses, a red crocodile shirt, red leather jacket, black leather pants and a red bandana. He was last seen going south on San Pablo Avenue in a bus and was gone when officers arrived.

At about 6:30 p.m. on May 15 a resident on the 700 block of Pomona Avenue reported that vandals had broken the rear window of his green Honda about 20 minutes prior. There were no witnesses.

At about 1:30 a.m. on May 16 officers stopped a red '83 Datsun near the Buchanan interchange for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 35-year-old Sacramento man, was found to be intoxicated. He refused the Field Sobriety Test but

failed the chemical test performed during booking. He was arrested, cited and released when sober.

On the morning of May 16 a resident on the 1000 block of Ordway Street reported that during the night thieves had entered her unlocked car and stole items. There were no witnesses.

On the morning of May 16 a resident on the 500 block of Madison Street reported that vandals had smashed the window of his blue '74 Ford. There were no witnesses.

At about 2 p.m. on May 17 officers stopped a white '91 BMW near San Pablo Avenue and Cedar Street for erratic driving. The driver, a 23-year-old Berkeley man, was found to be intoxicated. He was arrested, cited and held to be released when sober.

At about 2:45 a.m. on May 17 officers stopped a bike rider near Buchanan and Jackson streets for riding with no lights. The rider, a 37-year-old Berkeley man, was found to have an outstanding No Bail warrant from Oakland. He was arrested, cited and transported to the Berkeley jail to await transportation to the Alameda County Sheriff's office.

On the morning of May 17 Berkeley police reported locating a red '93 Saturn reported as stolen from Albany. They did not have anyone in custody and the owner was notified.

On the afternoon of May 18 an Albany woman reported that her son had been assaulted by another Albany boy. Officers contacted the 14-year-old Albany boy while he was at home with his mother. He was arrested for battery and transported to the Albany jail for booking. He was released to his parents with a Notice to Appear.

At about 9:30 p.m. on May 18 officers responded to a restaurant on the 1300 block of Solano

Avenue on reports of a young man panhandling customers. About 20 minutes later officers received a call from the Albany Cinema for the same situation. Officers located the subject, a 21-year-old Albany man, near Solano and San Pablo avenues. He was found to be intoxicated and was arrested. He was held to be released when sober.

At about 3 a.m. on May 18 officers stopped a gray '85 Honda near Kains Avenue and Garfield Street for a vehicle code violation. The driver, a 34-year-old Berkeley man, was found to have an outstanding vehicle warrant from San Jose. He was arrested, cited and released with a Notice to Appear.

At about 10:30 p.m. on May 19 an Albany woman reported that about five minutes prior she had been approached by two black male adults while on the 500 block of Pierce Street. She told officers that they had slapped her and stolen her purse. They departed going south on Pierce Street in a cream colored van with a third person driving. They were gone when officers arrived. Police are investigating.

On the evening of May 20 a resident on the 600 block of San Gabriel Street reported that while she was gone vandals had broken a front window in her home. There were no witnesses.

During the week of May 14 officers towed 11 vehicles, responded to seven false alarms, attended to eight lost or deceased animals, responded to one report of a barking dog and assisted four people who were locked out of their house or car. In the domestic arena officers responded to 16 civil disturbances and 95 civil assists. Officers stopped 92 cars and/or pedestrians issuing 47 citations and 45 warnings. Fire-fighter/paramedics responded one fire call and to 14 medical emergencies.

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Creek plan slowly begins to emerge

By Kate Darby Rauch
STAFF WRITER

It's been years in the making, and likely years more to fruition, but a plan to restore lower Codornices Creek at the Berkeley-Albany border is taking shape.

The ambitious plan, released this month, calls for transforming a channeled stretch of Codornices between San Pablo Avenue and the railroad tracks near Interstate 80 into a meandering waterway.

The creek, one of the few in the East Bay that is still home to steelhead, would follow its natural course amid a park-like strip of greenery featuring pathways and benches.

It requires moving playing fields and buildings, and altering redevelopment plans at University Village, a UC Berkeley student housing complex. Most of lower Codornices runs through the village.

The \$1.3 million plan is the result of compromise and perseverance among numerous community groups, along with UC Berkeley and the cities of Albany and Berkeley.

Not everyone is satisfied. "It's a consensus plan. It's not perfect," said Jack Bernier, a UC Berkeley planner.

"Overall, it's the best possible shot at restoring the creek," said Carole Schemmerling of the non-profit Urban Creeks Council. "It's a good plan as far as it can go."

HEARING

Public hearings on the Codornices Creek Plan:
TIME: 7 p.m. June 13
WHERE: University Village Community Center, 1123 Jackson St., Albany.
DETAILS: Jack Bernier at 510 642-0167

The plan, still in the draft stage, is being presented to the public over the next few weeks. An environmental review of the plan is expected to be completed by summer's end.

The essence of the plan is to give Codornices — one of Berkeley's largest and cleanest creeks — ample room to meander naturally along its final stretch from the Berkeley Hills to the Bay. That means building or enhancing a wide stream bed.

The creek is known for winter-time flooding, especially in the low, flat area near the freeway.

The restoration plan calls for creating flood zones that won't affect buildings or houses. It also provides access for people who want to hike or bike along the creek's edge or picnic on its banks.

That vision, however, means some serious changes to the south end of UC Village, which bounds the creek's north side.

Berkeley businesses come right up to the creek's edge on the south

side, providing little flexibility for change.

Renovation of the 1940s-era UC Village, which began in 1998, was seen as an opportunity to restore the creek. The university's initial reluctance turned to collaboration as public interest in the project became clear.

"It was recognized if we're going to do it, we should do it right," Bernier said.

About one-third of the village reconstruction project is finished — glistening new townhouses mark a section away from Codornices. The remaining two-thirds, still in the planning stages, will be redesigned to allow space for a meandering creek bed, Bernier said. "It requires a lot on the part of the university."

The creek work also will mean relocating playing fields used primarily by Albany and Berkeley sports groups, a city of Albany field house, and a public garden used by village residents.

The playing fields already were slated to relocate to Dowling Park on the west side of the village to accommodate new construction.

The issue has been controversial with sports groups that fear a loss of space.

Other issues related to the creek plan also remain unresolved, including how to pay for the project and when work could begin.

Fund raising is expected to be a collective effort. The city of Al-

bany already has raised about \$200,000 in grant money. Albany also passed a bond measure in 1996 to be used for creeks, open space and playing fields. It has about \$1 million, some of which the City Council could dole out to Codornices, said Ann Chaney, the city's head of community development.

If money is found, the work will have to be timed around UC's construction schedule.

This week the State Water Resources Control Board awarded a \$200,000 grant to the Urban Creeks Council to restore fish habitat in Codornices.

Funded by Proposition 13 approved by state voters last year, the grant will enable a comprehensive assessment of Codornices Creek's fish habitat and a plan to restore the stream to health.

The next section of village slated for hammers and saws is along San Pablo Avenue, where Codornices enters the village through a culvert beneath the street.

Old buildings will be demolished and replaced with a mix of retail space and housing. The university hopes to start work on that section within a year, Bernier said.

All those loose ends make concrete thinking about the plan tough, said Albany City Council member Jon Ely. There's an air of uncertainty around the whole thing, he said.



THIS CONCRETE SECTION of Codornices Creek at the end of Eighth Street in Berkeley would be part of a major restoration.

JOURNAL BRIEFS

BART adding bike parking at 26 stations

BART will double the number of bicycle parking spaces at 26 stations — including El Cerrito Plaza and El Cerrito Del Norte — by installing more than 400 new racks at a cost of nearly \$200,000.

The new style rack, which is called the "wave" or "U" style, will replace the old style, which were hard to use with modern bike locks. In addition to replacing the racks, 142 new bike lockers will be added and 22 others will be relocated to meet shifting demands.

Most of the money for the new installations came when the

Bay Area Air Quality Management District's For Clean Air Fund kicked in more than \$185,000. BART said it will be picking up the remaining \$9,000.

When the project is completed by late this summer BART expects to be able to park more than 2,700 bikes.

The new racks have been or are being installed at the West Oakland, MacArthur, Rockridge, Orinda, Lafayette, Walnut Creek, Pleasant Hill, Concord, North Concord, Lake Merritt, Fruitvale, Coliseum, San Leandro, Bay Fair, Hayward, South Hayward, Union City, Fremont, Ashby, North Berkeley, El Cerrito Plaza, El Cerrito del Norte, Richmond, Glen Park, Balboa and Daly City stations.

Memorial Day ceremony in Albany

ALBANY — The city is sponsoring a Memorial Day Celebration on Monday, May 28, at 9 a.m. at the Veteran's Memorial at Key Route Boulevard and Solano Avenue.

The ceremony honoring those who have died in service to our country will include brief

speeches and trumpet music, with attendance by Mayor Allan Maris, and members of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

For more information, contact Albany City Hall at 510-528-5718.

Albany YMCA celebrates National Older Adults Day

On May 30 the Albany YMCA

will present activities to celebrate and support older adults. "Being old does not mean you don't have to exercise, meet new friends and enjoy life," said Maggie Mould, an 80-year-old YMCA volunteer and member of the Albany YMCA's Senior Exercise Class. "I probably would not have made it to 80 without the exercise and social aspect of the class" added Mould.

On May 30, in celebration of Maggie and others like her, the

Albany YMCA is participating in National Older Adults Day.

"Throughout the day, we have special activities planned and we invite people who are 65 years of age and older to come and visit the Albany YMCA," said Mary D'Elia, health and fitness director for the Albany YMCA. The activities include fitness classes for members and non-members ("Easy Going" from 7:45-8:45

See BRIEFS, Page A5

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Natasha on Carpets
NATASHA EILAND AND BAKU
The question sent us this week was "Can I judge the quality of a carpet by the height of the pile?" The answer is no. Inexperienced rug buyers sometimes mistake a thick pile for quality. In fact the finest rugs are often the thinnest. If a rug is going to take significant traffic, it should have plenty of body.
This Week at Emmett Eiland's... We probably have more inventory now than we have had in a long time. This gives you more choices of styles, colors and sizes. Stop by our showroom this weekend and take a look.
If you have any questions for **Natasha Eiland** about rugs, please send an email to: info@internetrugs.com or write her at: 1326 Ninth Street, Berkeley, CA 94710
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All day - All along Solano Avenue
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Find five chocolate kisses hand-chalked on the sidewalks of Solano and enter to win a \$100 cash prize. Pick up an entry form in Peralta Park. Winner will be chosen from correct entries at 4 p.m. at the registration booth.
EAT CHOCOLATE!
Stores displaying a festival banner will sell exotic chocolate lollipops, chocolate salami, chocolate roses, brownies, cakes, truffles and lots more to munch while you're appreciating the chalk art.
Pick up a menu at the registration booth or in stores.
Chalk Artists
Squares of sidewalk will be assigned to artists to create their own chalk paintings.
FREE registration at Peralta Park, 1561 Solano, 9-5 PM. Register early for random drawing of registrants at noon for door prizes. \$4 box of artist's pastels or bring your own \$1 Polaroid of your work
• Operation Kidprint 11-2 at Peralta Plaza
• Dogs By Dianne Pet Fashion Show 2-3 at Key Route & Solano
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• Spring Street Banners Individually Painted by the Community
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Opinion

Columnist is castigated for his public service

This is the story of a genial old columnist: yours truly: who performed a public service and got a whumping for it. Keep your hankies handy and I will tell you how this travesty of justice came about.

As most of you know, the city of Albany is gearing up for another try at making the position of chief of police appointive rather than elective as it is now. The city began the game by requesting the Albany Charter Review Committee to sample public opinion on the proposed change, which has been definitively rejected four times.

The committee scheduled two public hearings on the matter. I am against making the change as I feel the current system has worked well for the 38 years I have lived in Albany. So I went: unbidden: to the Saturday morning meeting to have my say. I immediately noted the number of heavy-hitting Albanians present and the lack of any ink-stained wretches like myself.

This meant that all the wit and wisdom spoken would not see print and would thus be lost: oh lost!: to those who were not present. This was too much for an old newshound like me, so I got out my pencil and began recording the greatness. And some of the rest of it too.

When asked by the chair-lady if I had any thoughts to share, I stood up and took 16 bars like Beiderbecke with the Whiteman Orchestra. (OK, so I sounded more like Red Nichols or probably Andy Secrest.) I spoke from the perspective of a reporter who had found that city administrators do not like department heads or other employees making statements that conflict with city policy. I cited one case where a department head was chewed out for giving me a story.

It is easier to get news out of an elected police chief than an appointed one, which is better for reporters and ultimately the community. Make sense to you? Anyhow, I put down my horn and picked up my pencil still hoping another reporter would show and do the heavy lifting. It didn't happen then or at the next meeting, so I wrote the story.

Enter Jerri Holan, a member of the Charter Review Committee. She authored a letter to this paper charging that my reporting was biased in favor of those opposing change and lacked "substance."

Aware that having spoken at the first meeting some would suspect any news story I wrote of bias, I did just two things: (1) laid out the bare bones of what was going on, and (2) quoted as many people as I could on both sides. I wrote a story which took the reader to both meetings and let the speakers speak for themselves and the readers form their own opinions.

Holan charged that I, "summarized the committee's two meetings a bit one-sidedly." (Well, that's the way it was printed.) Beyond saying they were "sparsely attended," I didn't summarize the meetings at all. This story was all meat: verifiable facts and quotes. There was no reporter-helper in it.

Nor was the story designed to be either comprehensive or analytical. It was as close to a tape recording as I could make it. These meetings were just the opening skirmishes in what is going to be a major political battle engendering many stories of all kinds.

Holan also faults me for not having kept a tally of what she calls "reasons" brought forward by both sides. As in an athletic event, she figures the pro-change team was way ahead on the score board: "Twenty-one reasons 'for' to six 'against' is a big difference," she tells us.



DAVE GREER
Man About Town

In 52 years of writing for newspapers I have never before encountered this theory of reporting. Off hand, I would say there are perhaps a half dozen important reasons on either side, but I suppose the baloney can always be sliced thinner.

Even stranger is Holan's "hope" that when the issue gets before the City Council the paper will assign a reporter with, "a bit more objectivity: one who doesn't vote in Albany!" If reporters couldn't cover stories in the cities in which they lived and voted, that would be about the end of local news coverage. Plenty of politicians and bureaucrats would love that.

After reviewing my raw notes and adding up all the speakers again, it does seem I overstated the number of anti-change speakers by several. Some who spoke at both meetings were counted twice. I don't think that is much of a flaw in the account as a look at the number of speakers quoted on both sides and the space given them tells the real story.

Here's the way I tote up the stats: There were 20 different speakers. Eleven of them were against a change in the charter and nine were for it. I quoted seven speakers on each side. In addition there was one short quote (three quarters of an inch) from a speaker against change who had spoken before. I put it in because it corrected a false impression left by another speaker.

Out of a story that ran a tad over 31 inches, I devoted 21 inches strictly to the speakers. If you can find another news story with this high a proportion of quotes, please show it to me. Speakers favoring change received 9.25 of that 21 inches, and folks against had 11.75 inches. These figures refute Holan's claim that, "The bulk of the article is dedicated to describing most of the police and police staff's opinions."

At the first meeting I would have quoted another pro-change speaker, who is prominent in the community, had she not used her time to smear the current police chief. I won't report lies that may amount to slander, and no editor would print them if I did.

A quote from this person would have made the space devoted to both sides even or close to it although there were two more speakers on the anti-change side. I did not quote three other people beside myself who were against change at the first meeting.

Although Holan says I favored the side against change, I went out of my way to get a fuller statement from Elizabeth Baker, one of five former mayors who were for it. I called her after the meeting and got a better quote with points nobody else made. Throughout the story I tried to quote people who were not repeating what others had said.

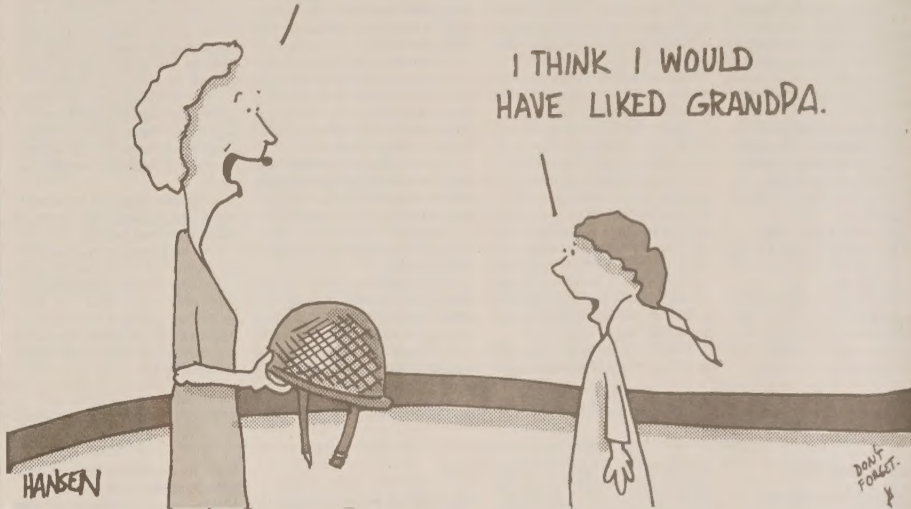
I believe that any fair-minded person reading my story on these meetings will have a good idea of what transpired and of the major arguments on both sides. If devoting two-thirds of the story to what people actually said does not give the "substance" of the meetings, and do it as impartially as possible, I don't know how it can be done.

Had Holan talked to me about her objections to my story, we could have compared notes and worked out another one for the paper. But she chose to castigate me rather

See GREER, Page C9

MEMORIAL DAY IS SO MUCH MORE THAN A DAY OFF WORK

YOUR GRANDPA FOUGHT
SO WE COULD BE FREE.



VIEWPOINT

El Cerrito civility threatened

By Mark Friedman
EL CERRITO CITY COUNCILMEMBER

In recent weeks the El Cerrito City Council has returned to behavior that reminds me of past years when outbursts and name calling by council members and the public was the norm. On one occasion my colleague wielding the gavel was so frustrated by a vote that didn't go his way that he practically pounded the poor innocent gavel into dust. And during the most recent Council meeting another of my colleagues interrupted the mayor's remarks by yelling and screaming and effectively squelched him from speaking.

I might add that at times a member or two of the public contributes to this negative environment through outlandish charges of conspiracies and repeated attempts to humiliate or embarrass my colleagues or anyone else who doesn't agree with them.

I have been around long enough to have gotten over any

naïve feelings that public life should be filled only with sweetness and light. But I find it increasingly frustrating to sit on a body that can spend a half an hour talking about the possibility of competing bookstores honoring book discount cards or an hour attacking well-meaning citizens who want a minimal amount of city support to put on a multi-cultural parade.

Life is too short and I have more than enough opportunities in my day job as executive director of the Alameda County Children and Families Commission to fill my quota for dealing with public bitterness and endless wrangling over issues that don't merit accusations, threats, or the public's time.

I have a lot of respect for the dedication to the city of each of my colleagues. I don't doubt that each council member sincerely wants to serve our community and make decisions that he or she feels make El Cerrito a better place to live

and work.

And I don't want to give the impression that I think I'm better than anyone else. But at all times I have tried to treat my fellow council members and the public with the utmost respect and to interject as much good natured humor as I can into the proceedings. I ask that my fellow council members and the public make a renewed commitment to reestablish and maintain a tone of civility or I will begin to dread council meetings as much as I did in the days when rancor and hostility was a regular part of business as usual.

El Cerrito is a great place to live and in the grand scheme of things the challenges we face as a community are not that daunting. In the past few years we have been able to pull together to pass a bond measure for parks and street improvement. We defused the community contentiousness regarding redevelopment. We worked extensively with community members to establish a great degree of transparency in all city operations and finances. We have two new citizen advisory

bodies to help us in the important areas of economic development and financial review. We have been extremely fiscally prudent and built up a healthy financial reserve. We have appointed an excellent new city manager and attracted and kept other extremely competent and dedicated staff members.

I would hate to see all these accomplishments jeopardized by driving away dedicated staff members and citizens by degenerating into consistent negativity and a lack of civility. It would be really boring if we all agreed all the time and it wouldn't lead to the best public policy, but we can disagree in a much more respectful and useful way. Let's also try to get our priorities straight and not try to do the job of staff and micro-manage the city's affairs. I want to be able to look forward to the council meetings over the last six months of my term and not have to wake up in the middle of the night after another ugly council meeting to write editorials like this.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A few words of remembrance

This Memorial Day, I'd like to say just a few words about those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us to enjoy the freedoms we have. Just a few words. Words like, the Ardienne, the Marne, the trenches, Corregidor, Bataan, Midway, Guadalcanal, Bougainville, Ploesti, Sicily, Salerno, Anzio, Tarawa, Monte Casino, Iwo Jima, Friedrickshaven, Normandy, Bastogne, Leyte Gulf, Okinawa, Pusan, Inchon, the Chosen Reservoir, the Tet, Khe Sahn, Kuwait and all the nameless skirmishes and fire fights in the snow, in the desert and in malaria infested jungles all over the world. Just a few words and, perhaps, two more. Thank you. Thank you very much.

Larry Damon
El Cerrito Mayor

Class of '51 classmates sought

It is 2001. Fifty years ago it was 1951. Those of you who graduated from Lowell High School in June of that year will be having a reunion Oct. 6, 2001.

If you have not received any of our

mailings it's because we do not have your address. To receive your reunion invitation send your current address to: Lowell '51 Reunion Committee, 3723 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94131.

Lowell '51 Reunion Committee
3723 Market St.
San Francisco, CA 94131

Immigration costs

This is regarding the article titled, "Energy burnout grips Capitol as another Davis aide resigns" (Times, April 25).

Fact: Californians use less energy per

capita today than they did 10 years ago. Fact: The exploding population growth in the state is driving the increase in energy demand.

Fact: Immigration is driving the state's population growth.

Fact: The Legislature approved borrowing \$10 billion to buy power.

Conclusion: Immigration is costing Californians billions. It is high time to expose the myth that immigration is "good for the economy."

Tim Aaronson
El Cerrito

HOW TO REACH US

Letters to the editor reflect the opinion of the writer. Letters must include your first and last name, address and daytime phone number. All letters are subject to verification. All letters are subject to editing for brevity and style. Not all letters may be published.

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"... were it left to me to decide whether we should have a government without newspapers, or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter."

— Thomas Jefferson, 1787

Put on your high heel sneakers and go steppin' out

Time to dust off your top hat and tails: The Black & White Ball is next Saturday, June 2. It doesn't happen every year; only when they can get all the buildings at San Francisco Civic Center together.

So what is the Black & White Ball, anyway? It's a chance, if only for one night, to dress up like our parents used to do and pretend we're Fred and Ginger.

It ain't cheap — \$175, or \$150 for the twentysomething crowd — but it's in a good cause: raising cash for the San Francisco Symphony. And you get first-class treatment, all the way. For instance, the official press release proudly notes that they're renting 30 "deluxe port-a-potties" for the occasion. I have no idea what makes a "deluxe" port-a-potty different from the regular kind, but you can bet I intend to find out.

And I'll report back to you after the ball. What other paper gives you such in-depth coverage?

If you're going to the Ball for the first time, here are my top 10 hints on how to maxi-



MARTIN SNAPP
Snapp Shots

mize the fun:

1. **Wear black and/or white.** I know this sounds obvious, but every year some joker shows up in a brown sports coat. Tackeeeee!

2. **Even if you rent a tux, don't rent the shoes.** I did that a few years ago because I thought it would look cool to wear a pair of those shiny patent-leather pumps, the kind that you can use as a mirror when you comb your hair.

I forgot that you spend most of your time on your feet. By the end of the night, it felt like somebody was cutting them off, one toe at a time.

Take it from me: Wear the most comfortable shoes you have. An old pair of Converse sneakers would be ideal. After all, they're Black & White.

3. **Eat a light meal before-**

hand. I say this in spite of the fact that they've stockpiled 4,000 sushi rolls, 10,000 Dim Sums, 5,000 tandoori chickens, 5,000 satay chickens, 4,000 lamb burgers, 35,000 tapas, 1000 lbs. of assorted cheeses, 130,000 crackers, 6,000 bowls of lobster bisque, 3,000 filet mignon steak sandwiches, 15,000 brownie bars (vanilla and chocolate — black & white, naturally), 300,000 pistachio nuts, 19,888 chocolate truffles, 29,5000 petit-fours, 59,320 chocolate chip cookies, 10,000 biscotti, 200 gallons of salsa, 2 million potato chips, 6,000 chocolate truffles, 40 cases of fortune cookies, 3,500 bagels, 100 cases of biscotti, 1,500 lolipops, 500 loaves of assorted breads, 100 cases of carrots, celery, broccoli, bell peppers, jicama and cherry tomatoes, 70 kegs of beer and 936,000 glasses of champagne. (Can you believe somebody actually counted all this?)

There will also be 650 lbs. of coffee beans, 250 cases of soda and 50 cases of alcohol-free Chardonnay for all the designated drivers.

"I know it sounds like we've

prepared a lot of food," says Black & White spokesman Jon Finck. "But if you arrive starved, you'll end up spending your whole time standing in food lines, instead of enjoying the party."

Yes, you can probably find the equivalent of dinner if you're willing to stand in food lines all night, but that's all you'll be doing. The essence of the Black & White Ball experience is to nibble a little, shmooze a little, dance a little, drink a little — in short, to act as if life were one long, pleasant Sunday afternoon that will never end. You can't do that if you're constantly on the prowl for food.

4. **Unless it's absolutely sweltering next week, bring a coat.** "Mark Twain may or may not have said the line about the coldest winter he ever spent being a summer in San Francisco," says Finck. "But remember that it can get 10 degrees colder over here than in the East Bay. We'll have plenty of cloak rooms so you can check your wraps as you move from building to building."

5. **Take public transporta-**

tion. Sure, there some parking lots around Civic Center, but who wants to worry about finding a space? Besides, if you drive, you can't drink.

Fortunately, instead of shutting down at midnight, BART is going hold the last train coming back to the East Bay until 12:30 a.m. You won't be missing much, because the Black & White Ball folks have decided to shut the whole shebang down one hour earlier this year anyway, at 2 a.m. rather than 3.

If you do take BART, don't do what I did last year, which was to take the next-to-last train at 12:10. It won't get you home any earlier.

When I connected with the Richmond train at 12th street, I ended up twiddling my thumbs for a half hour while they held that for the 12:30 train coming from San Francisco.

6. **Speaking of Midnight, if you want to see the Midnight Surprise, the best place to go is the 2nd floor lobby of Davies Hall.** Unlike years past, I actually know what the surprise is. So if you don't want to know, don't read the last line of this column.

In past years the Midnight Surprise has featured Tommy Tune, bungee-jumping Elvises, a parade of giant, 25-foot, inflatable champagne bottles, and a pianist playing "Rhapsody in Blue" while being towed down Van Ness by The Chippendales.

7. **Don't forget to check out**

other events in the same building. "For instance, at the same time that the Alex Davis is playing in the Orchestra of Davis Hall, Roy Rogers and the Delta Rhythm Kings will be playing on the lower level," says Finck. "And while the Gourds are playing in Opera House Lobby, we'll have live deejays at the same time in the lower lounge."

8. **If you've got a sweet tooth, head for City Hall.** It's all desserts there. If, on the other hand, you're hankering for more rib-stickin' vittles, head for the Civic Center Tent Pavilion. That's where you'll find the lamb burgers and the filet mignon steak sandwiches.

9. **If you're too drunk to drive home, go to one of the information booths at the corner of Grove & Polk or Grove & Franklin.** They'll call you a cab, and you can come back and get your car the next day. There will also be message boards at both booths, in case you get separated from your friends.

10. **And finally, if you can't scrounge the money for a ticket, go anyway.** It's a lot of fun just to stand outside on the sidewalk and gawk at the beautiful (and not-so-beautiful) people.

Phone Martin Snapp at 510-273-9039 or email him at catman@california.com. The Midnight Surprise is "Stomp."

Briefs

FROM PAGE 1

a.m. and "Seniorcise" from 11 a.m.-noon; free blood pressure screening from 10:30 a.m.-noon; raffle prizes for YMCA gifts; a tour of the Fitness Center; and a brown bag lunch at Blake Gardens in Kensington.

Participation in National Older Adults Day is a way for the Albany YMCA to recognize older adults and introduce seniors to the variety of ways that they can become involved in the YMCA. Some of the other senior programs at the YMCA include ballroom dance; yoga; tai chi; body conditioning; Friday night folk dance; book clubs; cardiac rehabilitation; film club; and YMCA volunteer.

For more information on the Albany YMCA's National Older

Adults Day call 510-525-1130. Albany schedules

Successful golf scramble for softball league

Organizers say the Albany Berkeley Girls Softball League Golf Scramble Fundraiser, held on May 11 at Tilden Park Golf Course, was a big success, raising \$4,000 for the development of a softball field at Longfellow School in Berkeley.

ABGSL parents thank the following sponsors who contributed to the tournament: Tile Shop, Savoir Faire, Mertens Painting, Jane Hammond Events, H&B BMW Specialists, L.J. Kruse Co., Backroads, Katana-Ya Ramen Restaurant, Harry Bergland Jr. CPA, Goetz Construction, Ironwood Engineering, Truitt and White Lumber Co., Placer Title,

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Co., Beverages and More, Oakland Museum, Lawrence Hall of Science, Clark Custom Clubs, Jesse Young Construction, Strategic Economics, Acrylic Art, and Sensational.

If you would like to make a contribution to the Longfellow School softball field, mail it to: ABGSL, 1678 Shattuck Ave. #28, Berkeley, CA 94709.

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Merlie Guerrero is not just an ER nurse at Doctors Medical Center

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and changes, so does our range of advanced medical capabilities. Yet one

thing will always remain constant — our pledge to put the patients' needs first.

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Youth Together continues youth violence prevention effort

Following up the successful youth violence prevention forum held March 28 at the Richmond Convention Center, students working with Youth Together presented to community leaders last week a plan to further mobilize youth and the community around efforts to reduce violence and provide positive alternatives for youth.

As proposed, a core group of Richmond High School students is seeking to link with Kennedy High School students to execute a broad-based community research project. As part of the effort, students will receive training in development

GLEN PRICE West County School Watch

of surveys, data analysis, polling, and community outreach. These activities will center around execution and analysis of a youth-based needs assessment identifying priority needs for programming, and, ultimately, a youth-led violence prevention proposal. For more information contact Alexis Pusina of Youth Together at (510) 834-9455 ext. 299 or apusina@arcassociates.org.

West County Schools win

Healthy Start grants

Congratulations to all of the West County schools who participated in this year's Healthy Start grant competition. The rigorous and demanding application process involves bringing together school communities to identify priority needs facing students and families and develop action plans involving collaborative participation of the school's key stakeholders. According to the state web site, all of our applicants, including Nystrom, Lincoln, Grant, and Dover elementary schools, received funding. Way to go! See:

www.cde.ca.gov/healthstart/HStarts2001.htm

KidsO First Rally this Saturday, May 26

City of Richmond Councilwoman is leading a rally this Saturday, May 26 in support of a Richmond Kids First Program. Modeled after successful similar efforts in San Francisco and Oakland, the aim of Kids First would be to establish a "Richmond Children's Fund."

The fund would set aside baseline levels of funding in the city budget earmarked for new and expanded youth and children's services. The rally will be held this Saturday, May

26 from 10 11 a.m. at the Booker T. Anderson Jr. Community Center, 960 South 47th St. in Richmond. For more information call Councilwoman Irma Anderson at 287-9033 or email Scott Coyle swcoyle@pacbell.net.

Team Player focus group Saturday June 2

School board member Patricia Player invites parents, students, and community members to "reflect on educational issues facing our district as we finish the 2001 year and make plans for the 2002 school year." The meeting will be held Saturday, June 2nd at the Good

Shepherd Methodist Church at 6225 Arlington (in front of Adams Middle School) from 9 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. For more information call Player at 524-9789 or email her at play-eredu@cs.com.

Want to receive West County School Watch and other action alerts on local school issues delivered to your email address? Send the message "Subscribe" to pakglenn@home.com. Back issues of West County School Watch and other sundry items can be found on the West County School Watch web site: www.igc.org/westcounty/

ALBANY PTA NEWS

Albany High School

■ Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Ruth Gjerde at ruthg@eecs.berkeley.edu

■ May 23, Spring Choir Concert, 7:30 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ June 1, Senior Awards Assembly & Luncheon, Veterans' Memorial Building

■ June 4, PTA Meeting, 7 PM, AHS Library, Election of 2001-2 Officers

■ June 11, Site Council Meeting, 6 PM, AHS Office Conference Room

■ June 11, Band Boosters Meeting, 7 PM, AHS Band Room

■ June 15, Senior Boat Cruise following graduation, 11:30 p.m.-4:30 a.m., four adult chaperones needed, e-mail Becca Sanchez at beccas@pacbell.net

mail Becca Sanchez at beccas@pacbell.net

■ **SCRIP Orders:** If you shop at Safeway, sign up for eScrip by calling 1-800-400-7878 or register online at escript.com. Old Navy is now available from eScrip. Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We are currently out of Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Linda Okamoto at 525-6782, E-mail Linda at alanhome@lmi.net

Albany Middle School

■ Interested parents may receive the daily bulletin and important announcements by e-mail. Contact Linda Okamoto at alanhome@lmi.net

■ **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** for Nootime Supervision, 11:35-12:20 for sixth grade, 12:30-1:15 for seventh and eighth grades, if available any day, call Sara Danielson at 558-3600 or e-mail

sarad@albany.K12.ca.us

■ **Volunteers Needed** to provide teacher treats May 25 If you can bring bagels and cream cheese, muffins, fruit or vegetable trays, call Karen McKee at 415-262-9636 (work) or kzmkeown@yahoo.com

■ May 31, Spring Choral Concert, 7 p.m., AHS Little Theater

■ June 7, Spring Concert, 7 PM, AMS Gym

■ June 14, Graduation, 7:30 p.m.

■ June 15, eighth Grade Marine World Field Trip

■ **SCRIP Orders:** If you shop at Safeway, sign up for eScrip by calling 1-800-400-7878 or register online at escript.com. Old Navy is now available from eScrip. Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We can provide Albertson's Community Partners cards. Call Linda

Okamoto at 525-6782. E-mail Linda at alanhome@lmi.net.

■ **REMINDER:** Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Cornell Elementary

■ **SCRIP sales:** Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (1-800-400-7878 or escript.com). Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. Natural Grocery and Berkeley Bowl paper SCRIP also for sale in the office.

Marin Elementary

■ Berkeley Bowl, Ranch 99 Market and Natural Grocery paper SCRIP for sale Monday and Friday mornings from 8:30 to 9 and 9:30 to 10 a.m. Orders can be placed in office at any time. Albertson's Community Partners Cards available at these times. Safeway and Whole Foods electronic scrip must be purchased from eScrip (1-800-400-7878 or

escript.com). Marin School account number is 136951780. Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 800-456-1032.

■ **REMINDER:** Save and turn in General Mills boxtops for education to office.

Ocean View

■ May 31, PTA Meeting, 7 p.m., Ocean View Library

■ **SCRIP** for sale in the office. Safeway scrip must be purchased from eScrip (1-800-400-7878 or escript.com). Register online for Andronico's at schoolpop.com or call 1-800-456-1032. We are now selling paper scrip from Ranch 99 Market.

■ **RECYCLE** used computer printer cartridges from your home or office. Look for bins in the library soon.

Board of Education

■ June 12, regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose

Room

■ June 26, regular meeting, 7:30 p.m., Cornell Multi-Purpose Room

AUSD Calendar

May 28, Memorial Day, NO SCHOOL

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EL CERRITO PTA NEWS

By Linda Takimoto
CORRESPONDENT

Bayside Council of PTAs

2001-2002 Board Information and Annual Report forms for all units are due NOW.

Adams Middle School

■ June 7, Eighth grade Recognition Night - 6:30 p.m. in the gym.

■ June 15, Eighth grade Party - 9 p.m. to midnight in the gym.

■ The Adams library is collecting empty computer ink jet cartridges (the small ink jet cartridges - black and/or color; no laser cartridges or copier toner cartridges). There is a collection bucket in the library on the third floor.

■ Anyone who shops at Albertsons can help us by using the Albertson Community Partner card. There is no cost to the member. If you are interested in receiving a card, please send a note to the Adams PTA at 5000 Patterson Circle, Richmond, CA

94805 and a card will be sent to you. We are also participating in the Target Guest Card and eScrip program (Adams ID#4654695). If you are interested in helping, please call the PTA voice message line or send an email message to cchan2429@aol.com.

■ **PTA E-mail - Weekly PTA bulletins** are being sent. If you know any friends or neighbors who might be interested, please send your email address to Connie Chan Kucera at cchan2429@aol.com.

■ **Adams: PTA Voice Message line** is (510) 464-1360, ext 70. Call this number to hear the weekly bulletins. Pass on this phone number to people who do not have email.

■ **Read about Adams on the Internet:** Access the PTA newsletter at www.elcerritowire.com and type "Adams Middle School" in the search box. Access the student newspaper, the Falcon Flyer at: www.highwired.net/Paper/PaperOne/0,1859,964,00.html

Castro Elementary

■ June 6, Carnival - 11a.m. to 2 p.m.

■ June 12, Celebration of Terri Kelly's teaching career. Mrs. Kelly will be retiring this June after many years at Castro. All former students and their families are invited to join Mrs. Kelly and the Castro PTA for dessert and reflections on a great teaching career. 7 p.m. in the MPR. For more information call Sheryl at 232-1325, Linda at 237-6183 or Karen at 233-4899.

■ **Fundraisers:** Castro is enrolled in eScrip (ID#137627554), Albertson's, Target, and SchoolPop fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 236-0761 to find out how you can benefit Castro when you shop.

El Cerrito High

■ May 22-26, Mainstage Production: "Romeo and Juliet" - 8 p.m., ECHS Little Theater. Admission at the door. Dates are tentative so confirm perfor-

mances with school office.

■ May 31, Symphonic and Concert Band performances, 8 p.m. in the cafeteria. Admission: \$5.00 Adults, \$2.00 children OR bring baked goods for our bake sale.

■ **NEW SCRIP SALES:** El Cerrito High School PTSA is enrolled in the eScrip program. Our group ID is 5221087. Individual members pay an annual fee of \$10 to register their Safeway loyalty or other credit cards with eScrip. A percentage of the supporters' purchases is contributed by the merchant partner to ECHS PTSA on a monthly basis. Participating merchants are: Safeway, Andronico's, Cody's Books, Chevron, Old Navy, Eddie Bauer, and Payless Shoes. You may register online at www.escripinc.com or look for registration forms at various school events. Any questions, call Cheryl Black 527-7070(days) or 237-1696(eve).

■ **All want to be kept informed** of all events, activities, tests date, college info, etc.? Join the ECHS

email forum. All school notices will be emailed to you. To sign up, please email Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@home.com. Be sure to specify that you would like to be added to the ECHS email forum.

Portola Middle School

■ May 29, Music Parents and PTA meetings - 6:30 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. in the library. Dessert potluck - all are welcome including incoming parents, bring a dessert to share.

■ May 30, Dance Department performance and Dessertluck - 7 p.m. in the gym.

■ June 2, American Cancer Society Relay for Life, ECHS track.

■ June 5, Portola Bands concert - 7 p.m. in the gym.

■ June 13, Eighth grade promotion night, 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. in the gym.

■ July 26, Tentative PTA meeting - planning for fall 2001

■ **Fundraisers:** Portola is enrolled in eScrip and Albertson's

fundraising programs. Call Peggy Wilcox at 236-0761 to find out how you can benefit Portola while you shop. "Teen Center - Monday through Thursday from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at the Community Center. Fee - \$6 drop in or \$50 monthly. Great activities, trips and special events. Call 215-4370 for more information *email forum - school information and meeting notices direct to your email box. Send your email address and request to be on the mail list to Joann Steck-Bayat at jsbayat@home.com.

Stege Elementary

June 2, Carnival - 10a.m. to 2 p.m. All are invited for fun and games.

WCCUSD Calendar

May 28, Memorial Day Holiday - all students and staff.

Items? Call Linda Takimoto at 237-6183 or email: ltakimoto@yahoo.com

Talking

FROM PAGE A1

restrictions of contract and lease confidentiality.

Several smaller Plaza businesses including Waldenbooks, Plaza Beauty Supplies & Salon, Beadazzled, Larry Parks Ltd, Plaza Shoe Service and the Plaza Barber Shop have either closed or moved or soon will. Although some merchants have no problem with Regency, others complain of sharply increased rents, eviction notices and a lack of communication.

The owner of the Plaza Coin Laundry, Steve Zhou, told the council that Regency has told him he will have to move when his lease expires next year. Zhou said he was given the option of moving to a larger Plaza location with a higher rent. Zhou said he cannot afford to pay relocation expenses which he estimates to be \$150,000.

It soon became apparent, however, that there is little the city can actually do concerning the Plaza lease and rental agreements. "We don't set rents on private property," City Attorney Howard Stern told the council.

Council members instead encouraged what Mayor Larry Daron called good corporate citizenship on Regency's part. Councilwoman Gina Brusatori encouraged Regency to work with the city's Economic Development Board to help the merchants.

"You're a corporate citizen of El Cerrito," Daron said speaking directly to Pacetti. "These are business citizens of El Cerrito," he said referring to the merchants attending the meeting. "I hope you can go out and exercise some good citizenship. I would appreciate it if you could look into any way that possibly you could help ease the impact."

Daron asked about the possibility

of Regency providing low-interest loans or other assistance to help the smaller Plaza businesses. Pacetti said he is not aware of any such Regency program, but would look into it.

Councilman Mark Friedman spoke of communication and commitment. "One of the problems with the previous owners, besides the communication with the merchants, was a lack of commitment to this community and a lack of commitment to working with long-term merchants who the citizens of El Cerrito have developed long-term relationships with," Friedman told Pacetti.

"Without having any legal authority or financial authority to do much about it, we would like to see from Regency some tangible sign that you will commit to improving the communication and have a stronger commitment to this community and the wishes of the citizens of this community than some of your predecessors did," he said.

Friedman said that at some point the city will have to "enter into a dialogue with senior people at Regency" to see how to improve communication, demonstrate a commitment to the community and help retain merchants.

At the meeting Pacetti read a statement from Thomas Engberg, senior vice president of Regency,

who was out of town and unable to attend.

"Simply put, our typical practice is to retain as many existing tenants as possible while bringing in new tenants that will expand the breadth and depth of merchandise and services offered to appeal to the greatest number of people in the community," Engberg said. "At El Cerrito Plaza we have employed this practice. We have attempted to retain as many tenants as possible. Some will not remain for a variety of reasons including rents that are significantly higher than the rents some tenants are paying under older leases." Engberg said that Regency's confidentiality policy regarding lease negotiations can be perceived as an attempt to withhold information or even deceive, but actually protects the interests of both parties.

Brusatori said that Regency should work with city planning and economic development staff people, as well as the Chamber of Commerce, on finding other locations in town for businesses relocating out of the Plaza.

"Maybe the city is aware of tenant openings in Del Norte Place or some other private properties that might be available" Brusatori said on Tuesday. "I just didn't think it was good public relations for Regency not to talk to the city about these things. The city might have some knowledge of properties and pieces available

that the affected tenants might otherwise not know of."

Sister

FROM PAGE A1

will travel south on Carlson, then turn east to San Pablo Avenue via Columbia Avenue. From San Pablo Avenue it will go up Moerser Lane to the Community Center. More than 14 performing groups will be there to entertain on two stages.

Ma said her organization hopes to attract 500 to 1,000 people to the festivities. "We had several hundred last year and we are

really expecting more this year," she said. "We're going to have international foods; that is to say Indian, Chinese, Vietnamese, down-home barbeque and Jamaican. We're going to have information booths, craft booths, face-painting and games."

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Event raises \$10,000 for swim center

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — A good time was had by all — and more than \$10,000 was raised for Swim Center amenities. "It was absolutely a phenomenal event," said Recreation Director Monica Kortz about last weekend's Pasta La Vista dinner and silent auction fundraiser.

Although the amounts are approximate because IOUs are still coming in and some ticket sales are still out, Kortz said on Monday that the white elephant garage sale and the silent auction brought in about \$1,500 each.

The pasta dinner itself brought in about \$7,600. An estimated 400 people attended the dinner.

The money raised at the

fundraiser will be used to purchase amenities such as pool covers, bleachers and water play equipment for the reconstructed Swim Center. All of the items in the garage sale and silent auction were donated by the public. Also, many people from the community and the city's recreation department and other city departments donated their time to the event.

Individual and business sponsors are simply too numerous to list completely, but they include: Andronico's Market, Berkeley Farms, Color Spot Inc., El Cerrito Honda, the El Cerrito Rotary Club, Disneyland Corp., Full Circle Travel, the Jawad family, Longs Drug Stores, Pastime Hardware, Pepsi Corp., McDonald's, Olivero Plumbing, Trade-way Stores and the Mira Vista

Golf & Country Club.

"People were really generous," Kortz said of the many volunteers and donors. She said that several people have already said they want to contribute to the event again next year.

"I can't tell you how much effort the staff put into this," Kortz said about the dinner and Community Center decorations.

"It was gorgeous. We had lights; we had a fountain; we had a wishing well," she said. "It did look like an Italian village."

Kortz said the fundraiser's large turn-out demonstrates that many people in the community support the Swim Center.

"They love their community pool," she said. "The community is supporting us and our staff is supporting us."



HARD AT WORK at Saturday's Pasta La Vista fundraiser are Harvey Wittenberg, Guy Navallier, Brenda Navallier and Samantha Kelman.

Solar

FROM PAGE 1

gon for people who generate home-made electricity, says the energy crisis brings attention to his cause, adding, "Every time the utility rates go up, I just smile."

Terry Galloway has devised a way to get through the energy crisis. "I get so upset when I open up my utility bill," he said. "Then I see the meter running backwards and I get so satisfied."

Breaking old barriers

The stereotype of the backcountry eco-warrior is from an era past; these days, homeowners with solar panels live in Berkeley, Orinda, Oakland, Montclair, even foggy San Francisco. They are professors, ranchers, contractors, physicists, artists, solar panel installers, doctors, engineers, scientists, and a bassoonist. By and large, they call themselves environmentalists but most insisted that their solar panel system not compromise their quality of life.

"[People] think of hippies living in VW buses," said Eric Jorgensen, whose San Jose home is powered by the sun and wind, "and it's just not the case anymore."

Jorgensen's residential San Jose tract house boasts a TV, DVD player, microwave, dishwasher, washer and dryer, stereo, and other amenities found in a "normal" home. Advocates insist anyone who has a roof and the ability to "pay for a lifetime of energy up front" can install solar panels on their home.

The Northern California Solar Energy Association has seen an enormous surge of interest in their solar-powered home tours and events in the months since the energy crisis began. On Feb. 10 of this year, NCSEA held a solar power seminar in Sacramento.

"Usually, we would be lucky if we got 25 people to come to these events," said Robin Mitchell, NCSEA's membership secretary. This time, 375 people showed up. They had to turn another 60 away for lack of space.

Many of the seminar's participants were there for one reason: "They think they're getting ripped off by the utilities," said Mitchell. "They feel vulnerable; they don't know if their electricity will be turned off, prices could go sky high."

Gary Gerber, owner and president of Sun Light & Power, a Berkeley company that has designed and installed solar power systems since 1974, now gets 20 times as many calls as he did before the energy crisis. Because

people are still afraid of the high prices, only some are translating to business. For customers who have signed up since the energy crisis, Gerber said, "This is just a trigger. Pretty universally, they've been saying, 'I've been thinking about this for 10 years.'"

Home Power editor Perez has also seen an exponential jump of interest. Before the energy crisis hit California—the hotbed of solar power use in the United States—Perez used to receive about seven calls a day. Now it's over 200.

Perez isn't surprised at the barrage of calls and e-mails—mostly from Californians asking, "What can I do?" or "Can I go solar?"—but he does say things would be different if the government, the media and homeowners paid more attention to the potential of renewable energy 20 years ago.

"The public perception of the energy crisis is that it's two months old," Perez said.

When Eric Jorgensen and his wife, Nicole, were interviewed at their home last December, two separate viewers went through all 45 Jorgensens in the San Jose phone book until they found the one who could start them on their way toward solar power.

When the rolling blackouts started, Jorgensen was crestfallen to find out he was too close to a hospital to get hit. One day, however, Nicole watched their block lose power when a transformer blew. She ran to the phone to call Eric.

"Guess what?" she said. "We're blacked out!"

"She's telling me this as she's microwaving her lunch and listening to the stereo," Jorgensen recalled.

Jorgensen and Coleman are two of about 200 customers on the special PG&E rate for renewable energy customers. Called "net metering," this rate measures the amount of electricity a house produces versus how much energy it consumes. If a net metering customer produces a surplus of energy, that customer receives a credit that will offset his electricity use during days when his system isn't producing enough energy.

During the summer, Coleman produces more electricity than he needs—sometimes 50 to 75 percent more. PG&E keeps a record of the excess. He pays PG&E's minimum payment—a little over \$4 a month—and meets with a PG&E representative at each anniversary of his solar

panel installation to settle up his electricity bill. In other words, they look at whether Coleman produced more energy than he consumed throughout the year or not, and decide what he owes based upon those numbers.

In 2000, Coleman's solar power system generated 512 extra kilowatt-hours, enough energy to supply a typical house for a couple of months. He didn't get any money back and he didn't even get to offset the gas part of his bill, which he pays like everyone else each month. Although he thinks it's unfair that he doesn't get a bigger break for helping PG&E out, he does think it's worth the money to stay connected to the grid and not have to maintain the enormous battery system it would take to store all that excess energy.

Small scale is big

Coleman originally installed solar panels for more global reasons. Solar power proponents like Coleman say photovoltaic systems that generate more power are part of a new way to look at energy generation, and could possibly help solve the energy crisis.

"I think solar power is going to be a pretty big element," in how power is generated in the future, said Coleman. "[Maybe it's] not 50 or even 25 percent of our power potential ... but at least 10 percent of the homes in California are appropriate for solar."

Terry Galloway said the

Chabot Space and Science Center has a direct impact on turning kids onto science, and in turn producing future solar proponents. "We're trying to tell them you can capture the sun's energy. It's a good source," he said. CSSC is trying to show visitors, "why [solar power] is pollution-free, why it's Co(2) free. We don't have to destroy the earth to produce energy."

"The whole paradigm of electricity is shifting," says Home Power editor Richard Perez, whose home/office—known as Funky Mountain—has run entirely off renewable energy for 30 years.

Solar panels, called photovoltaics, use a relatively simple technology to turn power from the sun into power for homes. Solar cells made of silicon (processed sand) convert energy from the sun—that same energy you bask in on a sunny day—into DC, or direct current, energy. Special converters then change the sun's DC energy into AC, or alternating current, energy, which is the everyday electricity we use to power our houses.

Solar panels, Perez explained, produce the greatest amount of energy during hot summer months, when the power companies see the highest demand as people turn on energy-guzzling air conditioners. Renewable energy supporters propose that the government, and even power companies, could save money by developing solar power rather than paying suppliers exorbitant

rates during peak power use and building new generation plants.

Some energy service providers pay customers for the power they generate, but PG&E isn't among them. PG&E spokeswoman Staci Homrig says it would be too expensive for PG&E — and, in turn, their ratepayers — to set up the infrastructure to deal with the relatively small amount of power net metering customers generate. "We're neither for it or against it," Homrig said about net metering, "we just try to be an information source."

Acceptance, setbacks

The first solar power renaissance dawned in light of the 1973 oil crisis. Experts predicted solar power would explode as the government provided tax breaks and funded research. Jimmy Carter added solar power to the White House in 1979.

The 1980s dawned with Ronald Reagan ripping the solar panels off the White House. Government funding dried up. At the same time, inexperienced or charlatan solar system installers — as well as continuing high prices — didn't help the cause.

Andy Black, electrical engineer and volunteer treasurer of the Northern California Solar Energy Association, said solar power is experiencing its second renaissance for two main reasons, "The price has dropped by a factor of 10 and the quality of solar panels has gotten better."

The only downside in the so-

lar power community right now is that installers and retailers are buried under a mountain of requests. If you want a solar system on your house by summer, Black suggests you find an installer now. The NCSEA and the CEC list qualified installers on their Web sites.

Gary Gerber says most of the customers he ends up working with are environmentally aware because they don't expect "a cheap way out." Even though interest is way up, Sun Light & Power has screened out many recent callers who either expect to save huge amounts of money instantly or just want to say "in your face" to PG&E. Many callers end up saying "no thanks" once they hear a system costs \$20,000 to \$40,000 and might take 10 to 20 years to pay itself off.

Advocates of solar power say use is growing by about 30 percent a year, and is pushed even farther along by the energy crisis.

Richard Perez maintains that if more American roofs were covered with solar panels, maybe there wouldn't be a next energy crisis.

Don Coleman thinks it's the government that needs to step up to the plate to help this technology along. "Rather than spending billions to build new oil- and gas-based power plants, why can't we spend billions on energy efficiency and alternative energy production? Spending billions to increase our dependency seems, well, just crazy!"

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Greer

FROM PAGE A4

than use the space to present her "21 reasons" or whatever other "substance" she thinks I left out. (At least she didn't accuse me of abusing it.)

My story was not perfect, but it is pretty hard to find one without some factual flaw or statement to which somebody objects. And if you think reporters don't write stories about which they feel strongly, I have a hot tech stock to sell you.

As the way we select a police chief is an important issue, I thought the people of Albany would be better off having my report of these meetings than none at all. Frankly, I'd much rather have been sailing or writing a column.

I think Jerri Holan owes me an apology. But since we are old acquaintances who have shared many a chuckle in the dim corridors of City Hall, I will let her slide if she promises to go to her room and speak herself really hard. Is that being fair or not?

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Man of many talents a familiar figure at Albany Senior Center

Robert "Bob" Krones had come over to deliver some photographs (for another column). As we talked I became more and more interested and amused. So I made notes. I call it a mini interview, but it isn't even that. It is just several anecdotes with no date line and very little background. So I give you Bob Krones, mostly in his own words:

One of Krones many hobbies is photography, and the photos he brought to me were really good. Action photos, not posed. I won't go into it because I hope to bring you the story with the photos in a column soon.

"What else do you do in your retirement, in addition to photography?" I asked, idly. "Several things," he replied, "including playing war games. Specifically World War II games." He said they

CLARA-RAE GENSER Community Folk

were engrossing and he enjoyed them. Later I asked my son about them, because he used to play the games with a friend. Josh said they take forever, because first you have to set up the battle. But, he added, that was half the fun.

Of course, he does other things, also. He and his wife, Irene, like to play bridge. She heard that the bridge at the Albany Senior Center was good so, although they live in Oakland, they started to come to the Albany Senior Center for bridge. Of course, active, interested people such as they cannot just leave it at bridge. They became enamored of the whole Senior Center, took

more and more part in it, and were soon one of its most active couples. Irene, now the president of the Center, writes the newsletter "The Booster News" and Bob often writes articles for it. In her May newsletter she suggests that members write their autobiographies (two pages, only) and they keep them all in a folder at the Center. A wonderful idea.

Bob is also the official photographer, and he keeps his photos as an ongoing history of the Center. So he is also the official historian, and in this issue of The Booster News he has a history of the Friends of Albany Seniors.

But we haven't even gotten to the anecdotes. For instance, I asked him to give me background: where born, etc. I must give you his answer in its entirety: "I was born in Tacoma, Wash. I never

knew my father since my mother left him soon after I was born. I had a Polish stepfather who did the best he could for me. He was always on the run so that the Krones families in Washington would not find us. I do not know why he did this, but he may have been afraid the family would try to take me away from my mother. Also he was used to that kind of life. He was a communist activist in Germany and escaped when someone warned him not to go home."

They moved from Port Angeles, Washington to Anchorage, Alaska, then left there in 1939 when, with war imminent, his stepfather felt that Japan would invade Alaska, so they moved to Northern California, ending up in San Francisco.

In 1944, as a graduate of Wash-

ington High School, he joined the Army Specialized Training Reserve Program, which sent him to the State College of Washington at Pullman.

Krones was later a professor at UC's engineering department, after a new job classification was created for him. He also worked in the linguistics department, at one point with a professor, helping him with experiments for which he set up the computer programs. What this has to do with writing poetry, I don't know, but it was now that he mentioned writing poetry that he read over KPFA.

And during the strife at KPFA, when Lou Hill came back, Bob volunteered there. They offered him a job at \$4,000 a year, but "I got in bad with a woman I was recording," and he adds, "This was my fatal flaw. I liked to do things without being instructed to do them." It was the music he played behind the woman that got him fired.

Then there were the language labs. The labs were created to teach people to speak foreign languages. The university created parts of it to other companies. One company, he said, did a "lousy job". They got them to come back in to fix it and things were worse. "So I did it myself." He found someone who knew how a lab should work, then he wrote the specifications so he was the only one they could get for it. "So I got

my lab, and it worked fine."

At one point the linguistics department hired a Chinese linguist, Bill Wong, who wrote a book on Chinese dialects. "That's how I got into phonology labs." While working in the linguistics department, helping students and setting up programs for them, he helped one student named Carol Simpson. She later started her own business, helping with communications between man and machine. She had a computer no one could work, offered him a job and he left Bill Wong and went with her.

After 17 years at UC he went to work for NASA, and worked there until he retired.

Krones had two daughters with his second wife, Janice, who was a paraplegic because of a birth injury. He married his present wife, Irene, about 25 years ago. She had four male children, and they now have 11 grandchildren.

I think I have the anecdotes right. He told them with such pleasure. Here is a man who enjoyed his life and continues to enjoy his retired life, which is great.

I enjoyed meeting and chatting with Bob Krones. I hope I've given you a picture of a very interesting person. Please give me your ideas of interesting people etc. Write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706 or call 525-4585. My e-mail is crgenger@aol.com, and I thank those of you who have been using it to send me suggestions.

Motel

FROM PAGE A1

lice reported some 50 incidents of criminal conduct, most of it drug-related, during a 10-month undercover operation at the motel. Later that year, the city revoked the Villa Motel's use permit. The motel closed at the end of 1995.

Today, Creekside has 16 apartments — six one-bedroom, six two-bedroom and four three-bedroom. One of the units will be occupied by a property manager.

All the spaces were filled a month ago. "There's a community room and small outside area with a picnic table," said RCD spokeswoman Jenny Falcon.

The rent varies and is based on the tenants' income. Where there were more applicants than units available, they were selected using a lottery system, according to Falcon.

Michael Rogers, housing development director for RCD, said it took a long time to line up financing for the \$3.2 million project. Alameda County gave \$900,000; Albany chipped in \$15,000. The rest of the money came from grants and an \$878,000 loan, financed by 40-year California Housing Finance Agency bonds, Rogers said.

Albany also saved RCD thousands of dollars in fees that it would have paid for the project.

"This has been a very long process," said assistant city administrator Ann Ritzma.

RCD bought the property in 1997 for \$450,000. Since then, according to Albany planning director Ann Chaney, the city has waived the design review fee (almost \$2,500), paid half of the demolition permit (\$450), and assumed all costs of our contract engineer and survey costs.

Perhaps one of the largest contributions, though, has been in creek restoration efforts.

Both Albany and Berkeley have been planning the restoration of Codornices Creek for some time. Sitting near the center line of the creek, the new apartment will also have to prove itself environmentally trustworthy.

"The city has a goal to restore as much of our creeks to as natural a state as possible," said Ritzma.

Now the ball is partly in RCD's court.

The plans the organization initially submitted to Albany included a housing development as

well as proposed creek restoration.

"But they obviously realized they couldn't afford that," said Chaney, hence the city's consumption of some \$30,000 in restoration-related costs.

Currently, the property and city have joint access to the creek. The portion on Creekside property will be fenced off, but both entities say they will be responsible for maintaining the condition of the land surrounding the creek.

One concern over the project, at least, has been mitigated.

Getting a consensus from neighbors is never simple, and some Kains Avenue residents worried about the appearance of the development. They wanted something that would "fit in" with the rest of the neighborhood, said Chaney.

As a result, the building portion facing Kains ended up lower in height than the San Pablo side

of the project. Those units also have porches in front and resemble typical residential duplexes more than a low-cost project.

Neighboring businesses, like the families that were selected, may be glad to see the space finally filled.

Ammari Electronics is one of several to occupy a neighboring San Pablo building. In the years that Matty Ammari has managed the business, the old motel has always been vacant.

"I have no problem with (the project)," he said.

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Arlington nets win in Senior League sectional

Eight teams from Northern California, including one from El Cerrito emerged as winners among the 78 district winning teams competing at the USA Senior League Sectionals (age 50 and over) May 3-6 in Fresno and will advance to the national championships in the fall. The winning teams came from El Cerrito, Foster City, Fresno, Los Gatos, Napa, Orinda, Petaluma and Santa Rosa. Copper River Country Club, Sierra Sport and Racquet club were playing sites. Sierra, with its 22 courts and sunken stadium court, played host for the Sunday finals, when the Arlington Men of El Cerrito defeated Johnson Ranch of Roseville, 2-1.

Teams battled through round robin competition in temperatures pushing the 90s, a high number of teams from public parks and school facilities won this year, as opposed to private clubs.

The eight sectional winners will represent Northern California among the United States Tennis Association's other 16 sectional champions in competition that will determine national recreational team winners. Teams compete at 0, 3.5, 4.0 and 4.5 levels as determined by the widely accepted NTRP rating system.

Teams play three doubles



ARLINGTON MEN, 3.5 USA Senior League Sectional winning team (left to right) first row, William Pulliam, Conrad Alano, Howard Chan, Larry Tannahill (captain), Bernie Rocco. Second row, Dale Huff, Ron Rueb, Jeffrey Henze, Barry Jarvis. (not pictured) Dick Bascom, Cliff Erickson, Steve Kenyon, Ron Kihara, Gerry Lynch, Victor Rauch, Frank Salerno and Gary Yee)

matches. More than 250,000 USTA members play in USA leagues annually. The Senior division was added in 1991 and has increased its participation by 15 percent each year. This season 5,722 seniors participated in Northern California, up from 4,950 the year before.

USTA Senior Sectional League Playoffs final day results (May 6): 3.0 Women: Petaluma Valley Athletic Club def Sunnyvale 3-0

3.0 Men: Vintage (Napa) def Sunnyvale 3-0 3.5 Women: Courtside (Los Gatos) def La Cantera (Santa Rosa) 2-1 3.5 Men: Arlington (El Cerrito) def Johnson Ranch (Roseville) 2-1 4.0 Women: Booth Bay

(Foster City) def Marin Tennis Club (Burlingame) 3-0 4.5 Women: Sleepy Hollow (Orinda) def Johnson Ranch (Roseville) 2-1 4.5 Men: La Cantera (Santa Rosa) def Berkeley 2-1

Solano's Chocolate and Chalk Art Festival is June 3

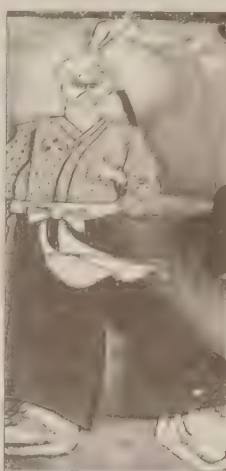
The sidewalks along Solano Avenue in Berkeley and Albany are the target of artists young and old, professional and greenhorn during the 5th annual Sidewalk Chalk Art Festival beginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, May 26. Rain date is June 2.

With no fees to artists, areas of sidewalk will be assigned to participants to create their own fanciful chalk paintings. Registration takes place beginning at 9 a.m. at Peralta Park, 1561 Solano Ave., Berkeley. Artist's chalk and a Polaroid of their finished work are available for a fee. To encourage early registration, a noon raffle will be held from registered artists for merchandise donated by local businesses.

The Chocolate Festival begins with a hunt for five chocolate kisses hand-chalked on the sidewalks of Solano. Find all five and enter to win a \$100 cash prize. Pick up an entry form in Peralta Park or at businesses flying a festival banner. Winner will be chosen from correct entries returned by 4 p.m. at the registration booth.

Pick up a Chocolate Menu with whimsical items for purchase from businesses on mile-long Solano Avenue that display an identifying festival banner.

Dogs by Dianne will host a Dog Fashion Show at 2 p.m. at Solano Avenue and Key Route in Albany. All animals must pre-reg-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CREATE YOUR own sidewalk chalk drawing for all to admire.

ister at 510-524-9779.

The Berkeley Police Department will set up Operation Kid-print at Peralta Plaza for part of the day. Children's fingerprints are taken and then sent home with the parents to be kept on file.

Details: 510-527-5358 or see www.solanoavenueassn.org.

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El Cerrito expands 4-four parking areas

By J.R. Deaton
STAFF WRITER

EL CERRITO — If you live near one of the city's two BART stations, four-hour parking may soon be coming to your neighborhood. The City Council voted this week to expand residential four-hour permit parking around both the Plaza and Del Norte BART stations.

The council moved on developing a fee schedule for the color-coded (neighborhood specific) parking permits for residents. The fee amount is yet to be set. The permits will likely have to be renewed every two or three years and the exact time limit will be decided later. A petition procedure by which affected neighborhoods can opt in or out of the four-hour zones was also approved. Commercial vehicles such as service and deliver trucks are exempted from the restrictions and a guest-pass system will continue to be available. The four-hour restrictions will continue to be enforced Monday through Friday 7 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The proposed expanded plan was presented to the council by Bruce King, the city's maintenance and engineering services manager. "At its meeting of Nov. 20, 2000, the council considered and approved expanding the existing four-hour restricted parking further into the neighborhoods around the city's two BART stations," the staff report notes. "While the expansion limited the four-hour (zone) to one side of the street, the council requested staff to first develop a procedure for the residents to apply for parking restrictions on both sides of the street."

The council authorized expanded permit parking areas around the BART stations as follows:

■ **Plaza BART neighborhood:** Clayton Avenue — 400 and 500 block, east side. Albemarle Street — 500, 600 blocks, east side; both

sides on the 400 block. Norvell Street — 500 and 600 blocks, east side. Everett Street — 600 block, east side. Behrens Street — all of the street, east side. Liberty Street — 600 block, west side. Lexington Avenue — 600 block, west side.

■ **Del Norte BART neighborhood:** Junction Avenue — 2100 block, south side. Harper Street — 2000 block, east side. Hagen Boulevard — 6400, 6500, 6700 blocks, east side. Tapscott Avenue — 1900 block, east side. Cutting Boulevard — 6700 and 6800 blocks, north side. Kenilworth Avenue — 6700 block, north side. Snowden Avenue — 6700 block, north side. Glen Mawr Avenue — 6800 block, north side. Walnut Street — 1700 block, east side. Blake Street — 6800, 6900, 7000, 7001 blocks, south side.

"These 30 additional street blocks of four-hour parking would allow residents with appropriate 'zoned' parking permits to park on the posted side of the street while allowing unrestricted parking on the opposite side," King noted. "This replicates the parking plan in place on those streets that currently have four-hour permit parking."

The vote to expand the four-hour restrictions around the Plaza BART was approved 4-1, with Mayor Larry Damon opposed. Damon said a restriction on only one side of the street is unfair. "If we're going to do a neighborhood or a block-by-block restriction on parking, we should do it so that both sides are treated equally," he said. "I'm in favor of the four-hour parking, but I want everyone to be treated equally," Damon said later.

The vote to expand four-hour permit parking around the Del Norte station passed 3-0. Damon and Councilwoman Gina Brusatori live near the Del Norte BART station and recused themselves from that vote.

The council heard from several

members of the public; some spoke in favor of the expanded permit parking, others against.

Albemarle Street resident Martha Bossie said the 600 block of her street "is not affected in any way by BART parking" and that the four-hour parking restriction is not needed there. Conversely, Nancy Norris-London, a resident on the 400 block of Albemarle, did want the restrictions. Hill Street resident Sean Kelley said that most times he and his wife cannot find parking on their side of the street even though one side of Hill already has four-hour parking restrictions. He also complained of inadequate parking enforcement.

Kelley said he and his neighbors think that the residential streets immediately adjacent to the BART parking lot should be reserved for resident parking. "I think that residents of El Cerrito should have the right to park in front of their own house," Kelley said.

A majority households in the 400 block of Albemarle have already indicated they want four-hour restrictions on both sides of the street there. At Councilwoman Kathleen Perka's suggestion, the council specifically approved four-hour restrictions on both sides of that block with their vote Monday night. "Twelve out of the 20 homes have already signed on to have it on both sides of the street," Perka noted.

The staff report indicates that

the signs marking the expanded permit-parking zones should go up the second or third week of June. The council authorized spending \$42,000 from the city's undesignated reserves for the cost of sign installation and parking permit issuance. The staff report notes that revenues generated by the permit parking fees could offset capital and operating costs. The question of raising the fine of a parking ticket was also raised. Police Chief Scott Kirkland reported to the council that a study of parking ticket charges is currently underway. He said the current parking fine is \$31.

Finance director named

ALBANY — At its City Council meeting Monday Albany welcomed Charles Adams as its new Finance and Administrative Services Director to replace Joan Streit, who left in January after roughly two years in the position.

"He wanted to start immediately," said assistant administrator Ann Ritzma.

The position is responsible for the management of the city's overall operating and capital improvement budgets.

On the administrative side, the director is also responsible for the city's information systems, phones and other communication systems.

Adams is a certified public ac-

Help establish native plant garden Saturday at El Cerrito Library

The community is welcome to join other volunteers on Saturday from 8:30 a.m. - 12 p.m., for the next work party at the El Cerrito Library at 6510 Stockton Ave.

Last Saturday a dozen volunteers finished clearing out ivy and tree stump roots, and now, it's finally time to plant.

This week the city will be dumping a couple of yards of soil on top of the area, and a pile of mulch next to it, so that volunteers can go ahead with the planting. There are about 100 plants that need to go into the ground. If you can't make this weekend's work party, they will be out again the

following Saturday to plant the remaining shrubs, etc.

Volunteers should wear long pants and boots if they can, as there is a lot of loose dirt and sawdust (from the ground tree stumps), and it tends to get into shoes. Wear sun protection gear as needed. The library will have gloves, some tools, and refreshments. Any additional tools that might be useful in the planting process, such as shovels, that would also be helpful. Push brooms are useful for clearing.

For more information, call e-mail Carla Koop at 528-6544 rare@uclink4.berkeley.edu.

countant and certified management accountant with a master's degree in Business Administration and a bachelor's in accounting. For 10 years he was the Chief Financial Officer of the Oakland-Alameda County Coliseum, and he has also been an auditor of local government agencies, school districts and other special districts.

His monthly salary will be \$7,019.

The Finance & Administrative Services Department monitors the city's fiscal operations. This includes accounts payable, accounts receivable, payroll, business licenses, taxi permits, and other business and residential transactions.

Therefore, the director oversees

the production of all the city's major financial reports: income statements, balance sheets, trial balances and other general ledger functions, and compiles and reconciles general fixed assets.

Other day-to-day operations include addressing Albany's long-term financial operations.

These include revenue and expenditure forecasts, midyear budget review and revisions, cost analyses of labor contracts, general budgetary oversight and control, grant funding, debt issuance, and capital improvement projects such as lighting and landscaping streets, sewer and capital facilities.

Spend Memorial Day spending less.



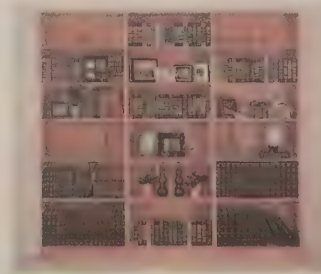
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\$149 Beech melamine corner desk with keyboard pull-out tray. Desk-top hutch **\$99**. Leather desk chair **\$149**.



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Real Estate & Home

Advertising supplement to The Berkeley Voice, The Journal, The Montclairian, The Piedmonter

Friday, May 25, 2001

Section B

Weekly Home Sales Maintain your focus on the East Bay real estate scene [B12]

Prudential's Oakland Grand Avenue office offers children's fingerprinting [B9]

A stunning renovation for the 20th Century in the El Cerrito hills

The grandeur of open space; the feel of home

BY BARBARA HENDRICKSON
RED OAK REALTY

Designers Bonnee and Abraham Elterman—known for their innovative house renovations in the Berkeley area—have once again transformed the ordinary into the extraordinary.

Using a 1950 home in the El Cerrito Hills, they set out to combine the open and expansive feeling of a loft space with the comfort and privacy of a family home for themselves and their three high school sons.

"We have had a long love affair with the open-high-ceilinged spaces such as we had seen first in New York and then locally in the new popular live/work spaces in the Bay Area."

"As a family, however, we had never been able to find a ready-made property that would provide the grandeur of open space and the feeling of a real home for our family," says Abraham Elterman, who is also a well-known interior designer in his own right.

He adds: "It has been an exciting experience to watch the transformation of the space. It is somewhat like putting the house through a time machine and bring it into the 21st Century."

Working with Berkeley architect Peter Graff and contractor Virgil Nielsen, Bonnee and Abraham shaped the El Cerrito home into an architecturally significant blend of loft life and personal home.

Before the renovation, the main feature was functionality, at the expense of architectural interest.

By raising the ceiling and removing all interior walls from the common area—kitchen, living room and dining room—they created a great room that extends into

Before the renovation, the main feature was functionality, at the expense of architectural interest.

a level deck that spans the width of the room and accents the home's spectacular view of the bay.

The rest of the house now consists of a master suite, two additional bedrooms, an additional hall bathroom and a family room/home office with garden access.

Except for the rich tones of the bamboo floors and the sisal carpets, the interior space is predominantly white.

This may seem odd, given the Eltermans' strong advocacy of color—a large part of their professional practice is as color consultants.

"Our intention was to enhance the bright, sparse feeling of the space; by using white we tried to create a pristine, soft environment," they said.

The white kitchen cabinets are combined with the elegance of Carrara slab countertops and the sleek look of glass and stainless steel. The bathrooms are finished with a combination of concrete floors and mosaic glass tile.

Stainless steel wall mounted fixtures complement the metal sinks. Bonnee Elterman adds, "in keeping with the concept of a loft, we used materials that evoke an industrial space applied with the elegance of a quality residence."

"The exterior of the house consists of an interesting combination of forms: slanted rooflines on the

See HOME, Page B3



BARBARA HENDRICKSON

BY RAISING THE CEILING AND REMOVING ALL INTERIOR WALLS from the common area — kitchen, living room and dining room—they created a great room that extends into a level deck that spans the width of the room and accents the home's spectacular view of San Francisco Bay.



Prudential California Realty

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Joaquin Miller Gem! \$509,000

All level 3+BR/2BA home in wooded setting w/ hrdwd flrs. and updated kitchen and bath.

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A Wonderful Find! \$479,000

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And up to now, you've done it with all your own money.

You are the owner-builder that construction lenders dream of. Due to your organization and planning, you would have your choice of construction loan products and lenders.

So, do you choose one of the local community banks, or one of the big all-in-one national lenders? It's the "Independents" versus the "All-in-Ones." To make that decision, first you need to understand the process and although it is often said that making a construction loan is more of an art than a science, we can examine the guidelines the lenders have given us.

The construction loan process can be broken down into three phases: the application and loan approval decision phase; the escrow and draw stages during construction phase; and the final phase, the rollover or take out of permanent financing.

Both kinds of lenders are looking for the same information from the owner and his general contractor. They want to see a good credit history, adequate income to qualify for the loan and liquidity. The owner should have minimum reserves equaling at least the minimum equity position is the transaction. For the general contractor, they also want a strong resume detailing experience and references.

Loan approval is also based on the project. The application would include a "future value" appraisal that would be based on the value of the lot, plans and specs and the breakdown of soft (preliminary inspections, architect and engineering fees, etc.) and hard costs (actual building costs).

The loan amount would be determined by the lender. The local community banks generally limit the

loan to 80 percent of the future value. The national lender has a sliding scale and offers for loans up to \$400,000 would be 90 percent loan to value; 85 percent to \$500,000; 80 percent to \$650,000; 75 percent to \$1,100,000 and 70 percent to \$2,100,000.

The construction loan product should be considered as well.

The national lenders, have the construction to permanent loan product that locks and closes the construction and permanent financing at the same time. The loan product is based on an Adjustable Rate Mortgage that is fixed for 5, 7 or 10 years taking advantage of today's low interest rates. During construction, the payments are interest-only on the full amount of the loan.

One national lender also offers a build-and-lock loan product. During the construction phase, the payments are interest-only, only on the amount that has been advanced based on an interest rate tied to the prime rate less 1 percent. With the recent cuts in the prime rate, the owner-builder would be paying 6.5 percent interest-only payments. For the permanent phase, most of the lender's fixed and adjustable products are available and the borrower can finalize the loan program of his choice any time up through completion of construction. Long term locks with float down features are available.

The community banks generally base their interest rate on the prime rate as well with a one or two point add to the rate. Sometimes less for builders they have had a long term relationship with. The payments are interest-only on the amount of money advanced.

It is the "escrow" and the way the draws are handled that the "art" of the science emerges and the main differences between the national lenders and community banks can be seen.

The national lenders require that the agreed upon draw schedule take place at their large out of state (unless you are building your dream home in Colorado) escrow facility in Denver or Colorado Springs. Another national lender has their facility in Ohio and one has theirs in Florida.

Several of the building contractors we have worked with do not feel that they have as much control of their project as when working with the local companies who act as facilitators between the community banks and the builders. And add the addition of the owner working with his builder, well that could add to the frustration.

One of the local facilitators is Ed Lawrence of Builder's Control. He is trusted by bankers and builders alike to tally up the receipts and inspect the property to make sure that the construction phase is complete for the next draw. And then he pays the bills at that stage of construction.

"We let the builder do what he does best, build the house. We handle the paperwork so that he can maintain momentum and the project finishes on time," said Lawrence.

The final stage is the completion of the project and the permanent financing phase. If you had been with one of the national lenders and their all-in-one construction to permanent financing programs, the lender would simply convert the loan to the agreed upon loan product.

The community banks would require a new take-out loan (called so because they are taking out the construction loan) requiring new escrow, title, another appraisal and loan fees. Also, the borrower is limited to the interest rates available at the time of the take-out.

When I asked Adam Howard of the Bank of Alameda what he thought of the higher costs and interest rates by community banks versus the national lenders he replied, "There are trade-offs that are just to big to ignore. The fact that you are working with a local operator that gives the owner and builder an added level of flexibility and servicing that allows a hassle-free project; the added costs would be recaptured in future equity."

Andrea Head, nineteen years in the Construction Department at the Bank of Walnut Creek punctuated that sentiment.

"There is nothing quite like the network of professionals in the building industry. Builders come to us because our company delivers.



KAREN SENZIG
Mortgage Advisor

The builders get their draws on time and their projects are completed without delays. In fact, I really do not consider the national lenders as competition. We have had to refinance a builder out of one those (construction to permanent) loans because he could not complete the project on time and was being charged an additional half point per month on the full amount.

"No, the competition isn't the large national lender's, it's the other community banks who do the job as well as we do."

Both the large national lenders and the local community banks have their positives. The flexibility of the loan products offered by the large national lenders are attractive, especially for major rehab projects. They assign a project coordinator who guides the owner-builder through the entire process and the construction to permanent loans can save the owner-builder some serious money.

But, with the exception of a couple of lenders, the large national lenders have a tendency reinvent themselves and their construction departments every couple of years.

When the refinance mania began several months ago, one of the major players simply closed down their construction department.

"We found it too difficult to get the (construction) loans closed," said our source at one lender, who wished not to be named.

"We became overwhelmed and streamlined our loan product list. The construction department was eliminated."

That is probably the strongest argument in favor of the independents. They have been around for a while, know the area and know the local people in the industry.

But it's nice to know there are options.

Karen Senzig is co-owner at Montclair Mortgage with her husband Scott. You can reach her at 510-339-8511; fax 510-339-3814; e-mail-Ksenzig@aol.com.

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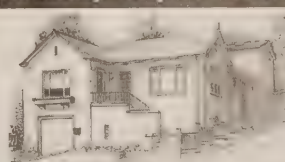
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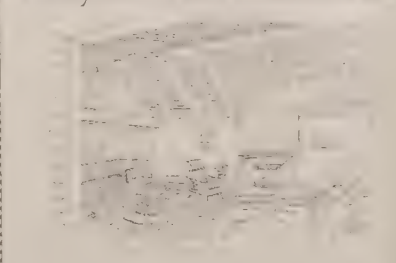


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Offered at \$845,000



Norah Brower

510 524 9888 x26

nbrower@flash.net



Open Sunday May 27th 2 - 5 p.m.

Moderation replaces frantic growth in Bay Area housing market

BY MARK ATTARHA
BETTER HOMES REALTY

The Oakland housing market experienced enormous appreciation over the past several years. As the market continues to outstrip demand, the market will remain strong even as high tech employment continues to lose high paying jobs due to the sell off of technology stocks in late 2000.

Moderation is now replacing last year's frantic pace. I believe this will be the local economy in the near future. The current market conditions, the majority of Bay Area home sellers should expect slower growth through the rest of 2001, as the market adjusts to the exuberant growth of the past several years of this year's slower economy.

In anticipation of the continuing slowdown, sellers must put their homes on the market earlier rather than later in the year. This may increase inventory. A single open

house once generated half a dozen prospective buyers betting against each other — driving up the home's value. Now homes are typically attracting a single buyer wanting to negotiate the price.

The ultimate selling price of a home rests with a number of factors:

- its desirability
- the economic climate
- the number of homes available for sale
- the number of buyers

Due to current market conditions, pricing a home competitively is critical. One should never base a selling price on what a home in the neighborhood sold for last year.

One must be willing to review offers as they come and to negotiate with potential buyers. Taking an active role in the transaction is important for any seller.

Although the area market is expected to soften, sellers should

Moderation is now replacing last year's frantic pace. I believe this will benefit the local economy in the end.

Mark Attarha

know that the demand for housing will remain high in the Bay Area.

Low construction figures and solid employment figures in Oakland will continue to keep the housing market among the tightest in the nation.

Mark Attarha is a real estate broker with 25 years experience. He owns three Better Homes Real Estate offices with 110 real estate professionals with total sales volume in excess of \$460 million.

Home

FROM PAGE B1

wings of the house that contrast with the cube-like middle section that contains the great room.

Two-tone tinted stone mixes with a galvanized, corrugated garage door and galvanized gutters and downspouts; new, solid-colored bronze windows complete the contemporary design.

Working with landscape designer Julie Calandra, the Eltermans created an ornamental front yard that is divided into six sections each of which is planted with a different variety of low plants as to create a sort of rug or ground painting. The large back yard is designed more conven-

tionally for family use, as it mostly consists of a large lawn area surrounded by plants and a view of San Francisco Bay.

The overall result is the transformation of an ordinary 1950s house that accommodates today's needs, tastes and sensibilities.

Family friends and relatives, charged during the year and the Eltermans decided to sell their primary home. It is listed for \$895,000.

For more information, take a virtual tour by visiting redocarealty.com and then call your agent of the Red Oak Realty at Red Oak Realty 510-287-2145.

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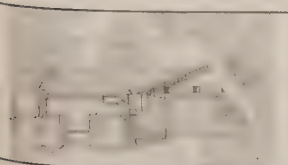
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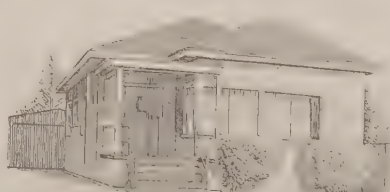
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THE 1910 GREGGSBY HOUSE at 915 Indian Rock Rd. combines Prairie elements with features borrowed from both the Mediterranean and California Bungalow styles.

Prairies among the redwoods

■ Frank Lloyd Wright's influence in the Bay Area

Part one of three parts

At the turn of the last century, residential architecture in America was dominated by the Victorian principles of "ornament for ornament's sake," and "the more decoration the better." These ornate homes often seem charming to look at today, when compared to the sterile, glass and steel boxes, or the unadorned Concrete Brutalism of many larger residential structures built in the later 20th century.

However, as the nineteenth century ended, many architects in America were already tired of the ornamental excess of the Victorian Era, and began looking to other traditions of architecture for inspiration in their residential designs. One of these traditions was Japanese teahouse architecture. Millions of Americans had been exposed to the simple beauty of Japanese residential design when they visited the Japanese Pavilion at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago in 1893.

The crowds of curious fairgoers who lined up for hours to get a glimpse of the Japanese Teahouse at the Chicago World's Fair were amazed at the lack of ornament on its walls. They marveled at the clean, functional lines, along the roof and the exterior of the house. They were impressed with the light, flowing quality of the interior, with its shoji screens and wide swaths of window areas.

Among these crowds were several architects who were destined to change the face of residential architecture, both throughout the United States and in the Bay Area in particular. These architects included Frank Lloyd Wright, the young prodigy from Chicago, and Bernard Maybeck and Julia Morgan, who were to found the First Bay Tradition movement with their early residential work in the East Bay within the next few years.

The Bay Area architects who were practitioners of the First Bay Tradition were directly influenced by, and often participants in a revolutionary new trend in domestic design that was based on a new style from the Midwest created by Frank Lloyd Wright called the Prairie School.

These houses had long, low horizontal lines and massing that integrated with the flat, sweeping lines of the Prairie on which they were built. Their rooflines were flat or nearly flat, and they had minimal ornament, which was always subordinated to the horizontal lines of the house.

Frank Lloyd Wright Chicago de-

veloped the Prairie Style in the years just before and after 1900. During this period, Wright created a system of design that completely rejected the vertical emphasis and applied ornament of the Victorian Era. In its place,

Wright stressed the use of clean lines, and large areas of glass to integrate the house with its physical surroundings—so it would blend in with its landscaping and allow sunlight, breezes, and pleasing aromas from the outdoors to enter the living quarters freely.

The environmentally integrated design and clean lines of the Prairie School were ideas

Wright had borrowed from the Japanese domestic architecture tradition. The use of minimal ornament, such as geometric patterns of stained glass around the outer edges of windows and rectangular, metal-framed tinted glass light fixtures, was a feature he adapted from the English Arts and Crafts Movement.

The Prairie Style of domestic design was first introduced to the American public through a series of illustrated articles written by Frank Lloyd Wright for the Ladies

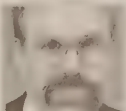
Home Journal in 1906. The drawings Wright did for these articles displayed the then shocking features of plain rectangular surfaces, undecorated stucco walls, flat or low-pitched roofs, and wide, overhanging eaves. Simple geometric patterns were set into the chimney, above, or below the windows.

The first fully Prairie School residence was the Robie House, completed in 1909 in Hyde Park on Chicago's south side. I used to walk past the Robie House nearly every day during my childhood, and I would marvel at the difference between this futuristic looking home and all that other ornate Edwardian Era homes around it that were built at the same time.

The Robie House is considered so important to the history of 20th century architecture that it is one of only two single-family residences included on the United Nation's register of World Heritage Sites, (the other is Frank Lloyd Wright's Falling Water, built in rural Pennsylvania in 1937.)

These radical new ideas received strong opposition, primarily from architects who were practicing the various Period Revival styles, such as the very popular Tudor

Revival Style that held its own with wealthy homeowners in the early 1900s. Horace G. Simpson expressed this type of resistance to fundamental change quite vociferously. A staunch advocate of Tudor



MARK WILSON
Owning a Piece of history

Revival, and a partner in the highly successful San Francisco firm of Simpson and Wood. In the February 1916, issue of the locally published professional magazine Architect and Engineer, Simpson wrote the following condemnation of the Prairie School.

"There is also a sort of style imported from the Middle West and consisting chiefly of plate glass and

See WILSON, Page B6




THE PRATT-THOMAS HOUSE, completed in 1911 at Shattuck Avenue and Indian Rock Road, is a two-story version of the Prairie Style with unpainted stucco walls, and Thomas's own trademark geometric patterns seen here just below the low-gabled roofline.

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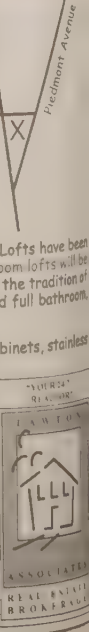
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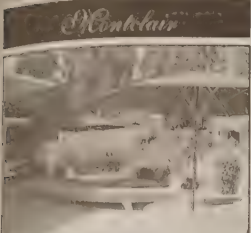




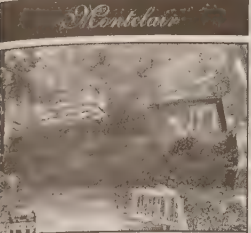


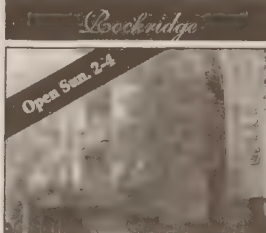

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Charming traditional 3BR/1BA w/updated kitchen, level to a large garden. Formal living & dining room. Judith Cain



Montclair Contemporary \$399,000
Lovely contemporary tucked away in the trees! 3+BR/3 updated baths, large decks. Needs TLC. Nancy Lehrkind



Charming English Traditional \$399,000
A charming & wonderful English traditional on a quiet cul-de-sac. 3BR/2BA, 1,522 sq. ft. Ed Kuo



Crocker Highlands \$399,000
Charming 3+BR/1.5BA traditional with spacious formal living and dining rooms. Great fenced garden. Mindy Scott



Live/Work Loft \$349,000
Stunning live/work loft in Jack London Square. Approximately 1,332 sq. ft. Great location. Ed Kuo

Wilson

FROM PAGE B4

vogue and a quite inexplicable reputation for originality. Without a doubt our domestic architecture is suffering from a taint of egotism in the designers which causes them to express their own peculiarities rather than the buses of the building and personalities of its occupants."

But such pompous criticism did not deter the innovative architects who often borrowed directly from the Prairie School, or who added their "own peculiarities" to create the First Bay Tradition. Of all the East Bay architects of the early 1900's, the one who was most directly influenced by the Prairie School was John Hudson Thomas. Thomas arrived in the Bay Area in 1906 from the Midwest, where he had studied the techniques of Frank Lloyd Wright.

The Loring House at 1730 Spruce St. in Berkeley was one of Thomas's pure Prairie School designs. Built in 1914, it bears a striking resemblance to Frank Lloyd Wright's early Prairie style designs in Chicago. It has wide, overhanging eaves, horizontal geometric patterns between the windows, rows of side-by-side banded windows, a flat roof, and clean stucco walls.

The Loring House is now listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Three of John Hudson Thomas's other well-known commissions, on Indian Rock Road in Berkeley, display the clean stucco walls, low angled or nearly flat rooflines, banded windows, and geometric areas of decoration taken from the Prairie Style.

The 1910 Gresham House at 915 Indian Rock Rd., combines the above-mentioned Prairie elements with features borrowed from the Mediterranean and California Bungalow modes like pastel colored



ANDREA FERRARIA

THE LORING HOUSE AT 1730 SPRUCE ST. IN BERKELEY is a pure Prairie School design. This John Hudson Thomas design bears a striking resemblance to Frank Lloyd Wright's early Prairie style designs in Chicago with wide, overhanging eaves, horizontal geometric patterns between the windows, rows of side-by-side banded windows, a flat roof, and clean stucco walls.

walls, and thick porch columns.

The Pratt-Thomas House, completed in 1911 at the southwest corner of Shattuck Avenue and Indian Rock Road, is a two-story version of the Prairie Style with unpainted stucco walls, and Thomas's own trademark geometric patterns around the front door and just below the low gabled roofline. The Pratt-Verper House, completed in 1911 at 959 Indian Rock Road, is a more traditional Prairie Style house, with its very horizontal massing and sweeping lines, and its unpainted

stucco walls with minimal geometric patterns.

In next week's column, I will describe some of the other East Bay homes that borrowed heavily from the Prairie School, including other designs by John Hudson Thomas, as well as one by

Bernard Maybeck. In part three, I will discuss Frank Lloyd Wright's own work in the Bay Area.

Mark A. Wilson is a Realtor and architectural historian who works at Prudential California Realty's Albany office. He can be reached at 510-273-9383.

Long-term rates creep up

Adjustable-rate mortgages lower in this week's survey

McLean, VA - In Freddie Mac's Primary Mortgage Market Survey, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (fixed-rate mortgage) averaged 7.14 percent, with an average cost of 1 point (1 percent of the loan amount), for the week ending May 18, up slightly from last week's average of 7.10 percent; a year ago, the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 8.64 percent.

The average for the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage this week is 6.67 percent, with an average cost of 1 point, up from last week's average of 6.61 percent. A year ago, the 15-year fixed-rate mortgage averaged 8.31 percent.

One-year Treasury-indexed adjustable-rate mortgages (ARMs) averaged 5.81 percent this week, with an average 0.9 point, down from last week's average of 5.90

percent. This time last year, the 1-year ARM averaged 7.15 percent. "The Fed has cut rates by 0.5 percent this year and that is going to have a big effect on the economy in the later part of the year. In the long term, a sharply rebounding economy raises concerns that inflation will make a come back and those concerns tend to push up interest rates," said Robert Van Order, Freddie Mac chief economist.

"The benefits of the rate cuts, however, filter into shorter term products, like the 1-year ARM. For example, the spread between the 1-year ARM and the 30-year fixed-rate mortgage is now at its widest point this year-1.33 percent. At the start of the year, the spread was only 0.21 percent."

Freddie Mac is a stockholder-owned corporation established by Congress in 1970 to support homeownership and rental housing. Freddie Mac purchases single-family and multifamily residential mortgages and mortgage-related securities.

TWO GREAT LISTINGS!
Open Sunday • May 27 • 2-4:30

1215 Alvarado Road, Oakland
Wonderful cedar-shingled contemporary home located in the Claremont Hills. Expansive canyon views, soaring ceilings, skylights & the use of natural stone & wood make this bright home a great place to live. 5 BR/4.5BA, family rm, gourmet kitchen, den/office, media rm, 2 car attached garage.
Offered at \$1,095,000

5123 Parkridge Drive, Oakland
Commune w/nature in this wonderful, all-level Parkridge Estates home. Backyard borders East Bay Regional Parklands. You'll feel like you're living in the country. Remodeled kitchen, expanded laundry room, lots of storage. 4BR/2BA, family rm, 2 fireplaces, 3 car garage.
Offered at \$539,000

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Panoramic Bay Views in the El Cerrito Hills
Ready for you to enjoy, this tastefully updated home boasts superb craftsmanship throughout. From the vaulted ceilings to the granite counters and energy saving features, this is one-level living at its best. Four bedrooms, two baths.
1132 Contra Costa Drive \$639,000

Romantic Mediterranean
Classic split level with random plank floors, fireplace, formal dining room & kitchen with eating space. Generous enclosed yard for gardening and/or entertaining. Three bedrooms, two baths.
5220 MacDonald, Richmond View \$329,000

2302 Carquinez Ave
This traditional home sits on a corner lot above Del Norte BART. Fireplace, three bedrooms, two baths, hardwood floors, dining area, eat-in kitchen & sunny patio yard. Bay views. \$429,000

135 Santa Fe Ave.
Near Kensington's Colusa Circle, this home features formal dining, eat-in kitchen, two bedrooms & one bath. Lower level bedroom & bath, workshops & garage. \$465,000

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Oakland
\$59,000 0 Burr. Zoned multi-form lots. Super View! Established neighborhood with homes on both sides. Large lot approx. 8500 sq. ft. on upslope. Near Shattuck/O'Connell High School. Donnell Williams (510) 814-4825

PENDING
\$139,000 1026 Pine St. Charming Victorian Cottage in West Oakland. 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, large living room, large kitchen, large dining room, large back yard, large front porch, large driveway, large garage. Donnell Williams (510) 814-4825

PENDING
\$200,000 1366 34th St. Victorian loft style living! One+ bedroom, 1 bath. Great location! Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

PENDING
\$225,000 1317 Center St. Large Victorian Home! Contractors special! 3 bedrooms, 2 bath family room, formal dining room, finished basement+room. Great location, needs lot of work. Kathy Hirsch (510) 814-4706

SOLD
\$296,000 1216 Everett Ave. Great view home! One plus bedrooms, large living room, large kitchen and bath, attached garage, long driveway. Gregg Fujita (510) 522-6222

SOLD
\$334,000 4488 Pampas Ave. Upper Laurel! Immaculate 2+ bedrooms, large living room, large kitchen and bath, large back yard, large front porch, large driveway, large garage. Bev & Don Williams (510) 814-4831

SOLD
\$299,000 Price Reduction! 3154 Arizona St. Charming Spanish Mediterranean in Upper Laurel hillside neighborhood! Two bedrooms, 1 bath, formal dining room, fireplace, refinished hardwood floors, and new interior paint. Basement could be bonus room. Attached garage. Georgia Muir (510) 814-4831

SOLD
\$349,000 7306 Altura Pl., Open Sun 2-4. This home has so much potential! The setting is gorgeous! One plus bedrooms, 1 bath with all appliances included, and a alarm system many lovely trees. MUST SEE! Teri Lee (510) 814-4840

San Leandro
\$625,000 6700 Liggett Dr. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, finished basement and bonus room. Refinished, random plank hardwood floors, and new rear deck. Attached 2 car garage. To be sold "as is" Russ & Linda Grant (510) 815-4713

PENDING
\$345,000 2514 Galleon Pl. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, finished basement and bonus room. Refinished, random plank hardwood floors, and new rear deck. Attached 2 car garage. To be sold "as is" Russ & Linda Grant (510) 815-4713

PENDING
\$358,000 2224 West 13th Ave. San Leandro. Land lover delight! If you want land in the city, this is it! French style home, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Must see! Russ & Linda Grant (510) 815-4713

Fremont
\$367,000 296 Junipero Common. Move in condition! Private location close to Calaveras. Three bedrooms, 1.5 baths, tiled kitchen, counters, and tiled entry way. Inside laundry 2 car garage, and well maintained front and back patios. Julie Rivard (510) 814-4831

Castro Valley
\$399,000 18499 Carlton. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths, formal dining room, finished basement and bonus room. Refinished, random plank hardwood floors, and new rear deck. Attached 2 car garage. To be sold "as is" Russ & Linda Grant (510) 815-4713

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EL CERRITO

GREAT AREA NEAR ALBANY/NEW PRICE!\$315,000
2 BR 1 BA, 1 car attached garage, near Plaza and BART, fireplace, #01012519
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EL CERRITO BAY VIEW HOME\$449,900
2651 Tamalpais, 3 BR, 2 BA home w/awesome views! Approx. 2077 sq. ft. plus Florida Room, new interior paint, Random Plank Hardwood Floors. Ask for Dwayne or Kim (510) 662-8537 or (510) 662-8470

BERKELEY

SWEET BERKELEY COTTAGE!\$279,000
Adorable cottage on tree lined street. 1 BR, living rm w/ fireplace, formal dining rm, detached garage & private backyd w/ deck. Refinished hardwood flrs. #01012509
Jamie Lake (510) 662-8487.

OAKLAND

LIVE/WORK LOFT\$499,000
309 4th St. #118, Dramatic Loft in Historic Jack London Square. Light-filled loft w/18' ceilings, custom kitchen, separate BR/Office, minutes from downtown Oakland, BART, Bay Bridge, Secured Parking. Jamie Lake (510) 662-8487.

RICHMOND VIEW

CLASSIC HOME\$269,998
853 Kern St. 3 BR 1 BA. Classic 1951 home w/upstairs rm as potential office w/views! Large level backyard, cozy fireplace & gleaming oak flrs, close to shopping, transportation & Wildcat Canyon. Ask about our free moving van! #01015473.
www.cynthiaburke.com (510) 662-8528.

SUPER REMODELED HOME IN THE HILLS.\$380,000
3 BR 2 BA New carpets over hardwood, new counter tops in kitchen, mirrored closet doors, new tub/shower enclosure, views of Bay and Wildcat Canyon, 2 car attached garage, large lot! #01015691.
Tom Cazazza (510) 222-8340

ALMOST NEW! GREAT STREET IN THE HILLS.\$399,000
Lovely 3 BR 2.5 BA home w/views off the deck. Almost 2000 Sq. Ft. Open ceilings, huge modern kitchen w/gas stove/oven, central heat, super floor plan, large master suite with walk-in closet, both bathrooms have double sinks, 2 car attached garage, fireplace. #01017993
Kathleen Pearce (510) 662-8490

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'Zero' defects call for fixing

BY DENNIS RADICE
CONTRIBUTOR TO NEWSPAPERS

Q: We have been shopping for a new home and have visited several builders' sales offices. At one, the salesman made a big point of the builder's "zero-defect" policy. As I understood the presentation, the builder delivers the house to us free of all defects.

A: Perhaps I'm a bit naive, but shouldn't all new homes be built without defects? Is this builder really offering something unique? And if so, does that mean other builders plan to deliver homes with defects?

A: In today's high-tech world, we expect the new VCR or the new

toaster to arrive home in pristine condition and work perfectly out of the box. And, since robots in high-tech factories build them, we are seldom disappointed.

Houses, on the other hand, are still built by hand in the great outdoors of natural materials. Although most builders aim to deliver a defect-free home, perfection is rare. There are almost always a few adjustments, paint chips and scratches that need attention as the home is completed.

The problem is often the timing of the closing. Many "defects" are

See **FIXING** Page B10

They're tops at Prudential Grand Lake

PRUDENTIAL CALIFORNIA Realty congratulates the top producers at its Grand Lake office. Pictured from left to right are John Bell, Nora Moakher and Damon Terry, members of the Director's Club with gross closings of over \$125,000, and Delores Thom and Darrin Tinsley, members of the Diamond Club with gross closings over \$200,000



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ROCKRIDGE \$1,150,000

6016 ROCKRIDGE BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)

New Listing! Gracious 3+BR/2.5BA Colonial. Remodeled throughout. Kitchen/family room. Stunning! Walk to BART. Georgia Cornell x325

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,095,000

1215 ALVARADO RD. (Open 2-4:30)

Wonderful Brown shingle new construction w/expansive canyon views. 5+BR/4.5BA, family room, den & media room. Joanna Hirsch x366

NO. OAKLAND HILLS \$819,000

53 BAY FOREST (Open 2-4:30)

Two year old custom home with Lake Merritt/South Bay vistas. 4BR/3.5BA, 3 fireplaces, granite & travertine, hrdwd flrs. & vaulted ceilings. Wendy Gardner x303

PIEDMONT \$799,000

54 CRAIG AVE. (Open 2-4:30)

Lovely craftsman, 4+BR/2.5BA, large living & dining rooms. Excellent kitchen. Hardwood floors. Joan Daniel x332

MONTCLAIR \$750,000

6601 COLTON BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)

New listing! Stately traditional on approx. 1/3 acre level knoll w/S.F. & Bay views! Magnificent living room. 4BR/3.5BA. Atrium, Gardens, Secret patios. Close to Village. Ann Nichols x319

CROCKER HIGHLANDS \$675,000

116 MANDANA BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)

Lovely traditional 3BR/2BA with newly updated kitchen/family room. Hot tub off master suite and separate office/studio. Terry Anthony x376

REDWOOD HEIGHTS \$539,000

3360 MONTEREY BLVD. (Open 2-4:30)

Spacious, sunny and beautifully decorated 4BR/3BA with family room, spa, new deck and beautiful deep tiered garden. Cheryl Hargett x375

PARKRIDGE ESTATES \$539,000

5123 PARKRIDGE DR. (Open 2-4:30)

All level home with backyard bordering on Parklands. Remodeled kitchen, family room. 4BR/2BA. Vicki Woodhead x334

HADDON HILL \$495,000

605 WESLEY AVE. (Open 2-4:30)

5BR/2+BA renovated traditional jewel. Updated kitchen w/granite counters. Gleaming hardwood floors. Front house is 3BR/1+BA; Rear in-law is 2BR/1.5 BA Tom Anthony x336

LINCOLN HEIGHTS \$489,000

160 MAIDEN LN. (Open 2-4:30)

Great house with lots of space & South Bay views. 3+BR/2BA, family room, office, level yard and patio. Dick Cohen X308 and Sandi Klemmer x314

MONTCLAIR \$399,000

5335 BROADWAY TERRACE #300 (Open 2-4:30)

Private and serene with open floor plan and Bay & hill views. 2+BR/2BA, bonus room, tastefully remodeled kitchen and decks. Donna Costella X355

ROCKRIDGE \$359,000

5335 BROADWAY TERRACE #300 (Open 2-4:30)

Top floor unit w/Bay & S.F. views from the balcony. Spacious living/dining area w/central fireplace. 2BR/2BA. Ashley O'Neill x368

OAKLAND \$269,000

9988 LAWLOR ST. (Open 2-4:30)

Wonderful hills and South Bay views. Sophisticated interiors with fabulous gourmet kitchen and new bath. 2BR/1BA. Teri Carlisle x305

PIEDMONT \$3,650,000

Rare opportunity to acquire historic estate, w/panoramic Bay views. 5+BR/4+BA, 4 fireplaces, Approximately 27,000 square foot lot. Charlotte Boyle x370 & Helen Danhaki x356

CLAREMONT HILLS \$2,275,000

5+BR/4.5BA. Splendid new home w/panoramic SF & GG views. Gourmet kitchen/family room. Luxury master suite. Approx. 1/2 acre. Spectacular! Nancy Noman x373

PIEDMONT \$1,995,000

5+BR/4+BA chalet with filtered Bay views, pool, spa and sauna. This custom built property abounds with redwoods, oaks and pines. Charlotte Boyle x370.

CLAREMONT HILLS \$1,395,000

Contemporary w/S.F. Bay & City views. Gorgeous high-tech architectural style & sophistication. 3+BR/3+BA. Fantastic gardens, patios & walkways. Debi Fitzgerald x306

MONTCLAIR \$1,295,000

Panoramic Bay and ocean views from every room of this dramatic 3+BR/3.5BA contemporary. Fabulous master suite w/sauna & steam room. Wave pool, air conditioning & more. Ann Nichols x375

ROCKRIDGE (UPPER) \$1,099,000

This beautiful, contemporary Mediterranean home combines elegant living, thrilling views, 4BR/3BA, and a sunny garden. Debi Fitzgerald x306

MONTCLAIR \$949,000

Dramatic custom 9 yr old home with expansive canyon views. 3+BR/2.5BA. Spacious floor plan. Approx. 4200+ sf with expansion potential. Teri Carlisle

MONTCLAIR \$995,000

Piedmont side of Montclair. 3+BR/3BA on approx. 1/3 acre level lot. Built for entertaining, lovingly maintained by original owner. Charlotte Boyle x370 & Helen Danhaki x356 or 547-5750

ROCKRIDGE \$749,000

Like new Craftsman. One block to Bart and College Ave. shopping. 3BR/2.5BA, formal dining room, office & large state-of-the-art kitchen. Donna DeBardi x345

RIDGEMONT \$679,000

Bay views. This 4BR/3BA home offers a generous floorplan. Dramatic living room with vaulted ceilings & dining room with 2-story ceilings. Robyn Mohr x310

RIDGEMONT \$675,000

Soaring ceilings, generous kitchen/family room, huge master suite w/sitting room with fireplace and bay view. 4BR/3BA. Robyn Mohr x310

PIEDMONT \$659,000

Charming 2+BR/1BA Craftsman Bungalow. Sunny level garden, updated kitchen & bath. Beautiful built-in detailing in living & dining rooms. Charlotte Boyle x370 & Helen Danhaki 547-5750

MONTCLAIR \$649,000

Dramatic 5BR/3BA Bay view post and beam contemporary minutes to Montclair Village. Level yard, oversized family room with fireplace and updated kitchen Jeffrey Himmel x307

MONTCLAIR \$639,000

Piedmont side of Montclair. Almost all level home w/abundant outdoor space and bay & hill views. 3+BR/2BA, family room, rumpus room/den and large yard with patio. Donna Costella X355

ELMWOOD \$630,000

Freshly redone, 4BR/2.5BA Craftsman on a quiet street in a beautiful Berkeley neighborhood. Easy walk to campus & close to College Avenue. Debi Fitzgerald x306

CROCKER HIGHLAND \$599,000

Lovely 4BR/2.5BA remodeled Mediterranean w/master suite & family room. Fireplace, hardwood floors, decks and large yard. Michelle Vasey x359

SAN LEANDRO \$499,000

Estadillo Estates Tudor style 4BR/2+BA blends elegance with old world charm. Formal dining w/French doors & sunny eat-in kitchen/family room that opens to lovely garden. Candy Benny x328

Coming Soon!

UPPER ROCKRIDGE \$599,000

Lovely and well maintained 3BR/1.5BA with living room w/fireplace, formal dining opening to deck, hardwood floors & deep rear yard. Carolyn Jones x339

SAN LEANDRO-THE BROADMOOR

Charming Tudor style 3BR/2BA on approx. 10,000 sq. ft. lot, filled w/fruit trees. Hardwood floors. Diamond shaped windows, eat-in kitchen, remodeled baths & 2 fireplaces. Michelle Miller x335

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Taking a look around the real estate community

News and information for and about the area real estate community and affiliated industries.

ATTENTION PUBLIC

Homebuying Workshop For Women

The Woman To Woman Workshop educates women on the basic principles of homebuying. The workshop includes home selection insights and demystifying the purchase process. Qualifying guidelines, closing costs and cost reduction are explained. The workshop facilitator is mortgage broker, **Karen Ward** of RE Loan Mortgage in Albany. The workshop is available at no cost, but reservations are a must. The next date is Saturday, May 26 from 9 a.m. to noon. For reservations call the Workshop Hotline at 510-718-2134.

Tax Savings Workshop

American Tax Professionals and American Vision Productions presents "Record Keeping STRATEGIES Workshop." The workshop is led by Enrolled Agent, Audit Litigation Specialist **Paul Kent**. The main focus is on small to medium businesses. The purpose is to educate, inform and involve the taxpayer in the process. Attendees will learn the latest strategies, how to formulate deductions and little known areas inside the tax code that can reduce taxes. The workshop is scheduled for June 16 in Hayward, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. To find out more or make a reservation call Tax Consultant **Allan Hutt** at 510-791-8962.

Income Property Workshop

Join "The Real Estate Guys" for an "Income Property Workshop". Ever wished you owned more real estate? This workshop is designed to help you create a plan to acquire it. Learn what it takes to increase

your investment property holdings. Real estate gurus and talk show hosts **Charlie Krackeler** and **Robert Helms** will discuss a variety of topics to get you on the right track. Topics include what to look for, financing options, 1031 Exchanges, avoiding landlord mistakes, operating budgets, tax advantages and much more. The workshop is held on Tuesday, June 19, from 6:30 to 9 p.m. at the Santa Clara Convention Center. Everyone is invited. Krackeler and Helms can be heard on Saturday mornings on their talk show, "The Real Estate Guys". For ticket information call 1-888-662-0668.

Homeownership Help

Down payment and closing cost assistance is offered through the City of Hayward to first time homebuyers. "There are still affordable homes in Hayward," commented Home Ownership Coordinator **Sam Thompson**. Buyers are required to purchase in Hayward and attend a Homeownership Class. Classes are on a monthly basis, as long as funds are available. To find out more about classes and other requirements call 510-583-4244.

Real Estate Careers

Have you ever wondered about a career in real estate? Want to know what it takes? What type of schooling is involved? How do I prepare for the exam? The answers to your questions are available through the Noble Fields School of Real Estate. For more information call the Oakland office at 510-451-7977 or the main office, in San Francisco at 415-956-6169.

Free Senior Care Guide

Georgia Richardson of Richardson Real Estate Services is offering *New Lifestyles*, an area guide to senior residences and care options. Guides are available for the San Francisco Bay or the Sacramento/North Bay areas. To obtain

a complimentary issue, contact Richardson at 510-569-3499.

OAR MEMBERS SPECIAL MEETING

Oakland Association of Realtors presents a special meeting "Pay Less Tax - Guaranteed". Join the Bradford & Company speaker for a lively entertaining and profitable tax reduction strategy session that promises to lower your taxes. The session is on Friday, May 25 at 1 p.m. The location is the OAR Auditorium on Webster Street in Oakland. For more information call the OAR office at 510-836-3000.

JOIN YOUR ASSOCIATION FOR LEGISLATIVE DAY

Wednesday, June 6 is Legislative Day in Sacramento. Meet with state legislators. Hear about upcoming laws that could change the way you do business. Your local associations are offering organized bus trips. Some trips plan continuing education and meals. For more information contact your local Association of Realtors.

ATTENTION REALTORS MANDATORY CLASS

"Ethics, Professional Conduct & The Real Estate Professional" is a three hour accredited class for real estate agents and Brokers. This ethics class is not to be confused with the DRE mandatory ethics class. This is a new class required by the National Association of Realtors. It must be completed within 6 months. For more information please contact your local association. For Bay East contact Linda Centoni of North American Title in Hayward at 510-537-8300. For the Oakland Association of Realtors contact Mary Walton at 510-836-3000. At the Berkeley Association of Realtors ask for **Don Clark**, 510-848-4288. Contact **Kristen McMa-**

han, 510-523-7229 for the Alameda Association of Realtors.

MAKE-A-WISH SOFTBALL BENEFIT

It's Aunt Franny Tourney time. Grab your bat and a ball and join the Chicago Title Company's 20th Annual Aunt Franny Slo-Pitch Tourney. Join a team or create your own. This three day elimination softball tournament is offered county-wide and benefits Make-A-Wish. Mark your calendars for Monday, June 18, Wednesday, June 20 and Friday, June 22. The tournament is held at the Central Park Softball Complex in Fremont. Spectators are welcome. If you have questions visit their Web site at auntfranny.com or contact your local CTC marketing representative.

AUNT FRANNY NEEDS SPONSORS

Chicago Title Company is looking for sponsors for the 20th Annual Aunt Franny Slo-Pitch Tourney. There are five levels of sponsorship ranging from \$200 to \$5,000. Company name and logo recognition is commensurate with monetary level. To find out more contact your local CTC marketing representative or visit the website at auntfranny.com.

MORTGAGE INDUSTRY NEWS

CARL Golf Tourney

Upcoming in June is the CARL annual Golf Tournament. Mark your calendar for June 18th and watch this column for more details or call the CARL Hotline at 925-746-1847 or visit the Web site at eastbay-carl.org.

The Breakfast Club

Join the lively Wednesday Morning Breakfast Meetings, presented by the California Association of Residential Lenders (CARL). Meetings are held at American Title in Walnut Creek on Olympic boulevard.

Start time begins promptly at 8:15 a.m. Breakfast refreshments are served. The next meeting is on May 9th. Need info? Call **Pat Johnson** of TRI Commercial Real Estate Services at 925-296-3300.

Speaker - Speaker

The CARL Breakfast Club is looking for timely and interesting speakers. Do you know of any? If so, please call **Pat Johnson** at 925-296-3358 or **Dale Junta** at 925-838-0140.

REALTISTS

Gala Planned

Plans are underway for the Associated Real Property Brokers 38th Annual Awards Gala. The yearly event, planned for Saturday, June 16 is a blacktie banquet and provides scholarship moneys for deserving high school students. The festivities begin at 6 p.m. at the Oakland Airport Hilton. For more information on tickets and sponsorships call **Georgia Richardson** of Richardson Real Estate Services at 510-569-3499.

REAL ESTATE BUSINESS COACH

Join real estate Broker and business coach **Victoria Williams** for her Real Estate System Workshop. For those who have completed Level 1, Level 2, Income Generation Cycle is scheduled in the Oakland area on Thursdays, May 31 through June 28, beginning at 9 a.m. Workshops include prospecting, marketing, time management and more. Workshops are held at 1535 Harrison Street in Oakland. To register call Regency Workshops at 510-865-3315.

WHO'S ON FIRST?

Broker/Owner, **Bob Munoz**, head of Independent Real Estate Brokers Corporate in Hayward announced the addition of a new

BOBBIE REID

Credit Worthy

satellite branch in Alameda Alameda resident and Realtor, **John Russell** was named Branch Manager. To extend kudos call Russell at 510-521-5302.

Don Lindsey, President/Broker of Gallagher & Lindsey Realtors in Alameda welcomes aboard two real estate professionals. New to G&L are Realtors **Renate Kohlmann** and **Keiko McDonah**. To say congrats call Kohlmann at 510-748-1160 or McDonah at 510-748-1147.

TELL ME EVERYTHING!!!!!!

I need your information for this column. Fundraisers, meetings, announcements, promotions, descriptions and change of scenery (company). I want to know it all. Information deadline is the Friday before the next weekend. There are three convenient ways to reach me. Send an email to bobbierid@edplanet.com. Fax your info to me at 510-441-7191. Call me at 510-441-7190.

Keep in touch with the East Bay real estate community. Read Credit Worthy every Friday in Hills Newspapers

OPEN SUNDAYS
May 20th & May 27th 2-4 p.m.




Albany - \$269,000
1128 Santa Fe Avenue
Great Albany location! Easy walk to Marin School. cozy 2 bedroom, 1 bath, split level, upgraded electrical, some double-paned windows, appliances included, 1 car attached garage.

Diane Sindel-Deutsche
broker/owner
510-524-8508
DianeSDeutsche@aol.com

Golden REALTY

Lots of LOTS for SALE




Buyer needed to purchase fabulous VIEW lot: 141 Strathmoor in the Claremont Heights. PD Gilbert plans approved. \$550,000 + \$30,000 for stucco work. Owner financing and motivated.

Skyline lot: ORJALA plans approved for two canyon view lots: \$195,000 @ Luxury contemporary homes of 4000@

Lake Chabot lot: 4145 Dingley: 1800sf for estate build \$240,000. Seller motivated.

For further information call:
Nancy Platford
+510 845 0211 • VM 510 869 5376

Prudential
California Realty



Piedmont Pines
OPENSUNDAY 5/27 2-4 PM



3030 Holyrood Dr.
Spectacular Retreat
Magical home situated on approx. 3/4 acre with 2 houses, large pool, view, wine cellar and lush, mature gardens.

Offered at \$1,195,000

Donna Conroy 510-339-4723

COLDWELL BANKER

STX Tour at www.chnocal.com

Open Sunday 2-4:30



5826 La Salle Ave., Montclair
Enjoy the feel of countryside living in this completely updated & artistic English with a rolled roof. Private courtyard, patio, hot tub & terraced garden. 4BR/2BA. Offered at \$849,000

Debra J. Dryden, CRS
Office: 339.0400/208
Residence: 339.3757
GRUBBCO.COM

The GRUBB Co.
Information deemed reliable but not guaranteed

5850 Chabot Court, Rockridge
Elegant 1920's charm, abundant multi-paned windows, light and airy spaces. Office room with French doors to private garden. 2+++bedrooms/2 1/4 baths. Walk to Market Hall & BART.

\$559,500

THORNWALL Properties (510) 848-1950 x 242

Kathryn Hill
Real Estate Broker

Open Sun. 2-4

KENSINGTON BORDER - 8054 Terrace Dr., El Cerrito



Glorious gardens in bloom all year long! Sparkling GG Bridge & S.F. views showcase this serene home designed by Hammerberg. Wonderful indoor/outdoor living & entertaining. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Terrific location on the Kensington border near shops, cafes, hiking trails.

For pictures, visit: www.marvingardens.com

Terry Pedersen (510) 841-3286

MARVIN GARDENS REAL ESTATE, BERKELEY

Open Sunday 2-4
933 Norvell Street, El Cerrito



Offered at \$349,000


This spacious level-in 3 bedroom, 2 bath home has been lovingly maintained. Featuring a sunny living room with fireplace, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors level yard and storage space galore.

Carol Heath-Kim
(510) 525-2346

Prudential
California Realty



JUST LISTED! • OPEN SUNDAY • MAY 27 • 2-4:30



Stately Montclair Traditional
6601 Colton Boulevard, Oakland
4 bedrooms/3.5 baths • Magnificent living room
Large, formal dining room • Bay & SF views
Surrounded by landscaped gardens • Lot size: approx. 33 acres

Offered at \$750,000

Ann Nichols
Senior Sales Associate
Bus: (510) 339-6460 ext. 319
Res: (510) 465-9004
Visit us at www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

COMING SOON



A rare opportunity to buy an older home in Upper Rockridge. Around the corner from Hillcrest School and a stroll to Village Market. Formal dining opens onto deck. Living room with fireplace. Hardwood floors. 3BR, 1.5BA Very deep rear yard. Lovely and well maintained. Move right in.

Offered at \$599,000

Carolyn Jones
Senior Sales Associate
Bus: (510) 339-6460 x 339
Visit us at www.pacunion.com

PACIFIC UNION

To contact the real estate editor,
call 510-748-1655 or e-mail
devanosky@cctimes.com

Space Reservations: **MONDAY, 12 Noon**

Copy Requiring Typesetting: **MONDAY, 5 pm**

Copy & Artwork: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**

Open Home Guide: **WEDNESDAY, 12 Noon**



202 The GILBERT Co.

New loft residences off Piedmont Avenue

THE SALES TEAM @ PIEDMONT AVENUE LOFTS

The 19 brand new loft residences at Piedmont Avenue Lofts represent the latest and most exciting stage in the evolution of the live/work housing phenomenon. These luxury lofts were designed for the sophisticated buyer who is looking for a unique urban experience. It is a wonderful mix of innovative design and unparalleled location that gives the lofts at Piedmont Avenue Lofts their unique position in the Loft market place.

The Live/work loft has been changing over the years, started by the bohemian artist that was looking for raw warehouse space to mold into both living and studio space. These first raw warehouse conversions were always very personal spaces for the artists that created them.

Transforming vacant and abandoned warehouse into a usable working and living space was often a very daunting task. But the results were usually striking spaces with soaring ceilings and incredible light which was meant to house the artists and inspire the artists' work. These features are what have driven the live/work loft into a firstform in the Bay Area today.

As the popularity and demand for these striking alternative living spaces grew so did the market. Warehouse space was being gobbled up at a furious pace in SF, Emeryville, West Oakland, and Jack London square. But the raw cutting edge warehouse space and the typical warehouse location was not right for everyone.

Piedmont Avenue Lofts were born out of these beginnings. These 19 unique Loft residences answer many of the complaints that people had about living in a warehouse loft conversion. People found they sometimes needed and wanted more from their loft. Yes, the big expansive space was great, but it didn't always afford some of the things a home needs to provide, like additional bedrooms, office space, guest bedrooms and baths, bigger more sophisticated kitchens, modern energy efficient systems and an attached garage.

Piedmont Avenue Lofts answers those needs and more. Sharing the same desire for incredible light and soaring ceilings, these lofts are true to that beginning.

From the first days of this project the development team at Urban Loft Developments has been passionate about adding a new dimension to loft living.

Starting with one of the few remaining vacant lots in the popular Piedmont Avenue District of Oakland, the developer felt a strong sense of stewardship for the land. This stewardship and unparalleled locations afforded an excellent opportunity for creating quality urban housing.

The new residents at Piedmont Avenue Lofts will have, within blocks of their new lofts, all the pieces and parts of a dynamic urban neighborhood. There is shopping, dining and entertainment all just two short blocks away on Piedmont Avenue. There are major employers nearby, like Kaiser Hospital. Also nearby are Bus lines, BART, and freeways. This makes the commute from Piedmont Avenue Lofts to just about anywhere a snap. You might not even need a personal car living here.

As good as the location is, it is the lofts themselves that really sing. Starting with the incredible exterior architecture and the way the buildings are laid out around a central driveway and pedestrian courtyard.

The driveway/courtyard is a pleasing mix of multi-color pavers set in a sand base and landscaping. It is reminiscent of a European village, with a place for all the residents to interact. This is even more so with the addition of cozy 2nd story decks that open onto this space.

The buildings are wonderful mixture of materials and finishes. With industrial undertones like galvanized steel and metal windows to the soft sophistication of the hand troweled colored plaster, the buildings are truly evolved yet, they don't overstate their presence, situated on the bluffs overlooking North Oakland.

Once you step inside one of the six different floor plans offered

at Piedmont Avenue Lofts you will be amazed at the way the industrial and residential components harmonize.

From the soft warm colors of the acid stained concrete floors to the soaring light drenched two-story spaces with cathedral ceilings you know you are in a special place. A place meant to inspire and surround you with creature comforts.

All the loft residences are three glorious stories, with a bedroom/home office on the first floor along with a full bathroom, entry-way closet, and a single car garage with laundry and internal access. As you engage the stairs to the second story you have a glimpse of the exciting space to come.

Once you are on the second floor the space explodes with light and volume. Hardrock maple floors, almost museum quality smooth wall finishes, architectural steel railings and accents, a massive concrete and steel fireplace/heater all combine as a stunning backdrop to your living space.

The generous eat-in kitchens are set up for the serious and casual cook, with stainless steel appliances, polished granite countertops, and copious amounts of cabinet space. The unique floating maple stairway leads you to the master-sleeping loft.

Here you can look back into the living space below and the huge two-story windows allows you an unobstructed tree house view. The master sleeping loft is the final piece of this wonderful place, with ample closet space, a luxurious oval soaking tub, and a granite tile flooring in the bathroom you know you are home.

Sales at Piedmont Avenue Lofts started at the Grand Opening last week and are brisk. Loft residences still remain and the helpful sales staff of Lawton Associates will be available his Saturday, Sunday, and Memorial Day to guide through this dynamic loft community.

Stop by Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m. or call Lawton Associates at 510-547-5970. Visit the lofts online @ www.piedmontavenuelofts.com

Fixing

FROM PAGE B7

not readily visible until the home is completed and cleaned. This occurs at about the same time the builder wants to close and turn the home over to the buyer, who is also eager to move in.

Before closing, the buyer and the builder do a walk-through and itemize these "defects."

As a result of the rush to close, some of the defects are not taken care of until a few days after the closing. A reputable builder gets defects corrected in quick fashion. In the months that follow, less ob-

vious defects may appear and the builder corrects them.

A "zero-defect" promise usually means the builder will correct all noticeable defects before closing. It doesn't mean your home will be defect-free.

Q: I am enclosing a copy of a letter I have sent to the developers of the community in which I recently closed on a new home. There are a variety of problems that the builder has failed to attend to. These include cracked roof tiles and a roof leak, toilets that back up and overflow and an electric ceiling fixture that is flooded with water due to the roof leak. What can I do? I have spent my life saving for this property.

A: There is recourse for the consumer, but sometimes you must be aggressive in voicing your complaints. If letters to the builder don't work, try putting up signs that say "Ask me before you buy here" in your yard. If all else fails, turn the matter over to your attorney.

For shoppers who have not signed a sales contract yet, do your homework before you buy. Check out the builder's reputation for customer service by knocking on doors of customers who have lived in the homes for a while. Ask those customers how the builder responded to service requests. Ask them if they would recommend the builder to family and friends.

Shown By Appointment



125 Hillside Avenue, Piedmont

Offered at \$2,245,000

The GRUBB Co.

D.J. Grubb
Anian Pettit Tunney
339.0400
GRUBBCO.COM

Open Sunday 2 - 4:30
5915 Mazuela Drive • Oakland



Offered at \$559,000

Montclair Retreat ~ Exceptional Bay View

Dramatic contemporary, serenity and privacy. 3 bedrooms, including 2 mastersuites. Eat-in kitchen is surrounded by glassdoors that leadout to the patio deck & trees. New appliances include stainless steel refrigerator and ovens. "Dine in the sky" in the dining area. Living room with floor to ceiling glass to frame the view. Garage. Hardwood floors. Home office with DSL line, ISDN lines & upgraded electrical. Direct TV satellite, Cable TV, terrestrial tv antenna. Decks. Virtual Tour @ Realtor.com



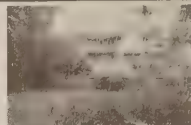
Charlene Claybaugh
Montclair Better Homes Realty
(510) 339-8400
(510) 287-9585



TEMPLETON LEVERETTE COMPANY

THERE IS NO SUBSTITUTE FOR LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

BERKELEY



Coming Soon! 21 Tanglewood, Claremont

A grand 1898 home set on 5 parcels extending to Stonewall Rd. There are 4BR, 3.5BA, original redwood detailing & elegant proportions. Worth the wait for June showings! Bebe McRae x145.....\$2,300,000



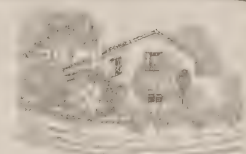
Splendid Views

Beautiful remodeled with 3 BR, 2.5BA, family room, large yard, and level entry! Bebe McRae x145.....\$750,000



Claremont Charming

Designed by John Hudson Thomas, this pristine 3BR home is close to shops & BART! Very Special! Bebe McRae x145.....\$550,000



ENERGY EFFICIENT & BEAUTIFUL TOO!

Secret 1000 Oaks hideaway with many new systems & upgrades. 3+BR, 2 BA, some view Gini Erck x133.....\$630,000



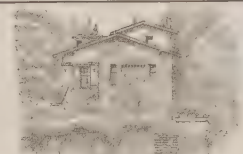
Coming Attraction

Secluded retreat fixer with rustic charm, & views. 2BR, 1BA, deep lot. Tricia Swift x140.....\$550,000



2501 Prince

A Golden Duplex in Elmwood! No rent control when new owner takes occupancy! Please call for details!! Annie Walrand x146.....\$749,000



WALK TO CHEZ PANISSE

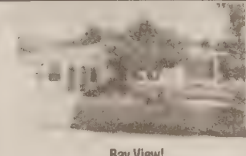
Delightful updated 2 BR home in lush garden setting w/ upstairs Bay views, great kitchen Gini Erck x133.....\$545,000

KENSINGTON



New Price!

Magical Mediterranean in Kensington. 3BR, 2BA. Beautiful gardens! Bebe McRae x145.....\$715,000



Bay View!

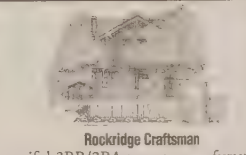
Very special one level living with 3BR, 1.5 BA, large family room, sunny level yard, 2-car garage, move-in condition. Bebe McRae x145.....\$495,000

OAKLAND



6400 Mystic Street, Rockridge

Fine 4/2 traditional 2 stories. Walk to Rockridge, Elmwood, BART. Tricia Swift x140.....\$800,000



Rockridge Craftsman

Beautiful 3BR/2BA two-story craftsman with wonderful architectural details & a lovely large private garden & deck, separate studio/office. Walk to College Ave & BART. Leslie Avant x122.....\$775,000

180 Caldecott Lane #316 New Price! Top floor popular 1BR, 1BA "Golden Gate" model. Immaculate move-in condition. Cathedral ceilings & flooded with light. Tricia Swift x140.....\$250,000

260 Caldecott Lane #103 Warm rich custom colors and details will delight you in this 2BR, 2BA "Montclair" model. Most quiet location. Green, leafy views & great light front & back. Tricia Swift x140.....\$345,000

EL CERRITO



1243 Brewster

A lovely tranquil home in the El Cerrito Hills. 4BR, 3.5BA, two family rooms, flat yard, attached garage, great floor plan. Close to Arlington Park and public transportation. Anne Van Dyke x137.....\$639,000



SWEEPING BAY VIEWS

Serenity, simplicity & architectural integrity. 3BR, 2BA, family room & lovely garden. Gini Erck x133.....\$495,000

New Listing!



5908 Charles Ave. Open Sunday 2-4:30

Wonderful 3BR, 2BA on a very quiet street in Mira Vista. Bay views from the living room & dining room, close to public trans, parks; short drive to Pacific East Mall. Anne Van Dyke x137.....\$408,000

RICHMOND

25 Seagull Drive Marina Bay Wonderful sunny 2 story 3BR/2.5BA home. Located in the Breakers walking distance to the Bay Shore Regional Trail. Leslie Avant, x122.....\$459,000

3070 Claremont Ave.
510.652.2133
www.templetonleverette.com



WEEKLY SALES

ALAMEDA

1214 Ballena Bl - \$402,000
3018 Bayo Vista Av - \$562,000
2609 Buena Vista Av - \$455,000
3215 Fairview Av - \$400,000
1600 Fernside Bl - \$465,000
3335 Fir Av - \$310,000
1 Fitch Ct - \$495,000
345 Laguna Vista - \$481,000
1006 Mound St - \$431,000
1306 Mound St - \$310,000
2206 San Jose Av - \$400,000
32 Shamrock Ln - \$520,000

ALBANY

1289 Brighton Av - \$318,000
717 Buchanan St - \$240,000
914 Carmel Av - \$475,000

BERKELEY

2418 Blake St - \$625,000
2601 College Av #109 - \$360,000
1701 Derby St - \$418,000
663 Ensenada Av - \$175,000
1421 Lincoln St - \$523,500
2105 Los Angeles Av - \$741,000
15 Maybeck Twin Dr - \$950,000
1536 Tyler St - \$262,000
1508 Ward St - \$260,000

EL CERRITO

1311 Elm St - \$301,000
937 Liberty St - \$365,000
1700 Manor Cr - \$450,000
413 Seaview Dr - \$588,000
2069 Tapscoott Av - \$537,500
2631 Tuller Av - \$398,000

EL SOBRANTE

105 Creekside Ct - \$218,000

38 Park Ln - \$146,000

OAKLAND

686 10th St #4 - \$228,000
1463 34th St - \$145,000
581 59th St - \$375,000
3144 60th Av - \$240,000
2436 66th Av - \$270,000
1547 67th Av - \$200,000
3532 69th Av - \$200,000
2933 73rd Av - \$200,000
1834 88th Av - \$165,000
1918 89th Av - \$200,000
3767 Allendale Av - \$290,000
4117 Allendale Av - \$240,000
4350 Arden Pl - \$645,000
4028 Ardley Av - \$433,000
6246 Aspinwall Rd #C - \$915,000
1128 Campbell St - \$240,000
710 Canyon Oaks Dr #H - \$200,000
6951 Chambers Dr - \$413,500
6174 Contra Costa Rd - \$950,000
455 Crescent St #115 - \$162,000
8856 Dowling St - \$235,500
1753 East 22nd St - \$275,000
2027 East 28th St - \$349,000
2437 East 28th St - \$225,000
1641 East 33rd St - \$245,000
3809 Enos Av - \$376,000
25 Evergreen Ln - \$777,000
4144 Greenwood Av - \$605,000
1994 Harrington Av - \$160,000
2301 Harrington Av - \$275,000
4551 Heafey Rd - \$735,500
7106 Homewood Dr - \$540,000
209 Isleton Av - \$152,000
3033 Kingsland Av - \$370,000
6937 Lacey Av - \$235,000
3316 Laguna Wy - \$310,000
6678 Liggett Dr - \$665,000
5842 Mendocino Av - \$595,000
1676 Miami Ct - \$450,000
1824 Myrtle St - \$255,000
4296 Norton Av - \$530,000
321 Oakland Av - \$499,500
8421 Outlook Av - \$373,000
3649 Shone Av - \$288,681

4800 Stacy St - \$350,000
7517 Sunkist Dr - \$150,000
3878 West St - \$365,000
3903 West St - \$246,000
1 Woodcrest Cr - \$415,000

PIEDMONT

1110 Oakland Av - \$320,000

RICHMOND

560 28th St - \$207,000
545 34th St - \$222,000
6116 Bernhard Av - \$425,500
1801 Butte St - \$275,000
423 Elgin Av - \$180,000
4588 Fran Wy - \$335,000
46 Idaho St - \$480,000
1201 Melville Sq #305 - \$185,000
1346 Merced St - \$285,000
4401 Potrero Av - \$225,000
2167 Pyramid Dr - \$335,000
3208 Roosevelt Av - \$185,000
223 Ruby Av - \$179,000
295 Ruby Av - \$185,500
58 Seabreeze Dr - \$340,000
533 South 24th St - \$150,000
308 South 47th St - \$230,000
355 South 6th St - \$105,000
2565 Treedside Wy - \$258,000
3301 Tulare Av - \$225,000

SAN LEANDRO

1507 137th Av - \$227,000
695 Begier Av - \$465,000
1325 Burkhardt Av - \$340,000
426 Caliente Dr - \$210,000
216 California Av - \$295,000
2217 Fairway Dr - \$345,000
866 Hutchings Dr - \$285,000
15178 Inverness St - \$330,000
15041 Kesterson St - \$260,000
2001 Laura Av - \$257,000
14424 Merced St - \$320,000
533 Warden Av - \$267,000

2227 Woodduck Ct - \$415,000

SAN LORENZO

2062 Bandoni Av - \$357,500
15859 Corte Mariana - \$273,500
1722 Keller Av - \$295,000
16084 Paseo Largavista - \$229,000
16187 Via Karl - \$299,000
146 Via Linares - \$255,000
1539 Via Mesa - \$260,000

By the numbers

TOTAL SALES: 12
LOWEST PRICE: \$310,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$562,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$435,917

TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$240,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$475,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$318,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$344,333

TOTAL SALES: 9
LOWEST PRICE: \$175,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$950,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$418,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$479,389

TOTAL SALES: 6
LOWEST PRICE: \$301,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$588,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$439,917

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$146,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$218,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$182,000

TOTAL SALES: 49
LOWEST PRICE: \$145,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$950,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$288,681
AVERAGE PRICE: \$362,402

TOTAL SALES: 1
PRICE: \$320,000

RICHMOND

TOTAL SALES: 20
LOWEST PRICE: \$105,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$480,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$250,600

SWIFT

TOTAL SALES: 13
LOWEST PRICE: \$210,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$465,000
MEDIAN PRICE: \$295,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$308,923

TULARE

TOTAL SALES: 7
LOWEST PRICE: \$229,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$357,500
MEDIAN PRICE: \$273,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$281,286

This list was compiled for publication in Hills Newspapers by TitleTech of Oakland which obtains weekly records from the county recorder's office.

Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes.

All questions regarding this information and any requests for additional listings and services provided by TitleTech should be directed to Bud Gorham at 510-568-7233 or TitleNotes@aol.com.

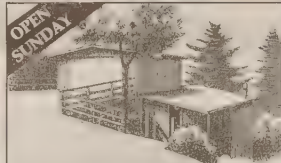
Please be kind to the environment: recycle this newspaper

COLDWELL BANKER

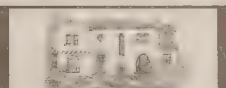
PIEDMONT & OAKLAND • 510.339.4700



4869 Harbord Dr.\$799,000
Upper Rockridge. Designed by Harry Bruno. 4BR/2BA updated traditional. Eat-in kitchen, rumpus room, sunny decks, bay view. Open 2-5 p.m.
Michael Thompson



6385 Longcroft.\$649,000
Piedmont Pines. Retreat in the pines, yet near Montclair Village. 3BR/2BA, family room. Open 2-4:30 p.m.
Donna Conroy



4250 Hedberg Dr.\$1,195,000
Piedmont Pines. Magnificent real treasure tucked away on a lush landscaped knoll, complete w/views, big pool, guest cottage & an unbelievable almost 2/3 acre lot. Open 1-4 p.m.
Donna Conroy

2537 Scenic.\$349,000
California bungalow. Hardwood floors, fireplace, formal dining room. Open 2-4:30 p.m.
Victor Fierro

OPEN SUNDAY

124 Sonia.\$669,000
Rockridge. Charming traditional. 4BR/2.5BA. Open 2-5 p.m.
Nancy Dickey

531 Prince.\$499,000
Lakeshore. Gumwood detail, wainscoting, hardwood floors, 3+BR/3BA.. Open 2-4:30 p.m.
Ruby Ng

2690 Las Aromas.\$599,000
Piedmont Pines. Well-planned space or easy living. 3+BR/2BA. Close to schools. Open 1-4 p.m.
Ellen Lancaster

7316 Plank Ct.\$399,000
El Cerrito Hills. Level-in 3BR/2BA, large family room, master suite. Open 1-4 p.m.
Victor Ratto

BY APPOINTMENT

Upper Rockridge.\$799,000
Stunning view home w/wonderful floor plan.
Fritz Hochfellner

Oakland Hills.\$479,000
Near hiking trails & equestrian center. 3BR/2BA
Ruby Ng

Lincoln Heights.\$585,000
Stunning Views. 3BR/2.5BA
Rachel Ballar

Lake Merritt Condo.\$299,500
Rooms with a View! 1BR/1BA
Michael Thompson

Claremont Heights Lot.\$550,000
Stupendous lot with view
David Eckert

Glenview.\$399,000
Charming, sunny 3BR/Remod. kitchen w/island & skylight, hardwood floors, attached garage & fenced yard!
George Karsant

Rockridge.\$549,000
Classic duplex. Nice size units, hardwood built-ins, fireplace, many original features.
Victor Ratto

Montclair Lot.\$349,000
Beautiful, amidst luxury homes.
Fritz Hochfellner

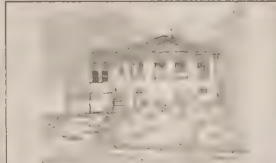
Parkridge Estates.\$539,000
Immaculate & sun-filled. 4BR/2.5BA
George Karsant

Berkeley.\$349,000
Adorable. 2BR/1BA. Bright & airy detached studio.
Evelyn Walker

Oakland Hills.\$525,000
Bay view & regional park at your back door. Charming 3+BR/2BA, hdwd flrs, updated kitchen, home office.
Dian Hymer

Adams Point.\$285,000
Great natural light. 2BR/1BA Spanish bungalow. Level yard & ample storage.
Karen Lum

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BERKELEY HILLS.\$325,000
A lively & fun home with GG Bridge views. Easy indoor/outdoor flow to gorgeous lush garden. Exceptionally large lot. Full of light & details. 3BR/1BA. Seismically upgraded.



SUNNY NO. BERKELEY DUPLEX.\$495,000
Home plus income OR duplex! Easy access to UC, BART, shops/restaurants. Front 2BR/2BA owner's unit, 1BR/1BA rear w/lovely garden, 2 fireplaces, 2 garages & 2 laundry areas

OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30

BERKELEY.\$399,000
1626 Knolls Ave.\$399,000
Up & down duplex, 2BR/1BA each
Holly Rose

2 Panoramic #206.\$285,000
Knockout view, 2BR condo
Nacio Brown

OAKLAND.\$1,150,000
13848 Campus Dr.\$1,150,000
4BR/2BA. Serene views, luxury home.
Rita Zwerdling

BY APPOINTMENT

CLASSY BERKELEY TOWNHOUSE.\$318,000
Bright & cheerful 2BR/1.5BA great location! Fireplace, updated kitchen, deck & parking. Near campus, College Ave. & BART.

SUNNY BERKELEY DUPLEX.\$399,000
NEW LISTING! Each unit (upstairs-downstairs), has 2BR's/1BA. Both have hardwood, gas stove, living room. Shared laundry and yard. Convenient to park, cafe, market, BART. Excellent condition.

BERKELEY VICTORIAN APTS \$325,000 & \$275,000
Sun-filled, charming units, in great location near UC Berkeley. Amazing details and new paint. Down has 3BR/1BA & a grand LR/DR; Up has 2BR/1BA, balcony deck, Yd, prkg.

MARINA BAY CONDO.\$339,000
PRICE REDUCTION! Take another look at this stunning 2+ BR/3BA condo. Well maintained, custom upgrades. MRBR, deck, frplc, 1 car garage. homes@bobbiq.com

THOUSAND OAKS CHARMER.\$385,000
Close to Solano, this is a real charmer. Needs updating but worth it. Large lot. Two bedrooms, one bath. More info www.dianeeverducci.com.

RICHMOND HILLS.\$459,000
Large lot w/serene views! Beautiful hdwd flrs. 3 BR/2 BA, fenced yard. Private driveway w/space for several cars.

GORGEOUS MEDITERRANEAN.\$795,000
REDUCED! All redone! Over 1000 sq. ft.! Grand living & dining rooms. Fabulous new kitchen! 3BR/2BA, exquisite garden, 2 car garage & EZ access to Kensington Village.

GREAT WESTBAY DUPLEX.\$465,000
Both units vacant at close. Live in one and rent the other. AS-IS. Lower unit has 2BR/1BA livingroom & diningroom; upper unit has 2BR/1BA. Hdwd flrs thru out both units. 3 year old roof. Deck, patio, garage.

TOP OF UC CAMPUS.\$285,000
NEW LISTING! 2BD condo with knockout Bay-view. Redone kitchen with granite counter tops. New appliances. Redone bath. Private deck. Secure garage parking. Great proximity to UC.

MILLION DOLLAR VIEW.\$900,000
An exceptional lot of 3/4 acre with an awe inspiring view of Bay, bridges & sunsets. Bella wrought iron gates open to curved road leading to level site for a villa. Approx 2,017 sq. ft. building on lot, now used as recording studio.

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ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
260 Grand St. Open Sat & Sun Open Saturday 510-748-1161, Gallagher & Lindsey	480/2 BA	2-4	\$875,000
75 Beachon Bay Open Sunday Maurice Shambell 510-814-4880 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2 BA	3-4	\$735,000
15 Evans Ct. Open Sat & Sun Crista Harris 510-814-4814 Janice Payne 510-814-4848 Harbor Bay Realty	480/2BA	2-4	\$709,000
750 Limerick Lane Open Sat & Sun 88 Home 510-748-1108, Gallagher & Lindsey	480/3BA	2-4	\$698,000
1912 Cornell Dr. Open Sat & Sun Don Gary 510-748-1110 Gallagher & Lindsey	480/1 + BA	2-4	\$625,000
645 Pacific Open Sunday Sally Reiter 510-823-2314 Kane & Associates	2 + BD	3-4	\$625,000
1111 San Antonio Like Call, 925-477-3530, Alan Pineda Realtors	480/2BA Sun 2-4		\$599,999
1311 Cook Open Sat & Sun 510-814-4841 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2BA	2-4	\$595,000
1417 Gibbons Open Sunday Cecilia Harris 510-814-4833 Harbor Bay Realty	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$595,000
217 Kellway Court Open Sat, 100 Open Sunday 510-822-4633 Kane & Associates	3 + BD	2-4	\$589,000
2822 Yosemite Open Sunday Dec Pro-Rentals 510-814-4833 Harbor Bay Realty	2 + BD/2BA	120-3	\$559,000
1210-1030 Santa Clara Ave Open Sunday Ally Ward 510-748-1128, Gallagher & Lindsey	2 units	2-4	\$549,000
1918 Elm St. Open Sunday Nancy McCall 510-789-1845 Kane & Associates	580	2-4	\$525,000
215 Inverness Ct. Open Sat, Harbor Bay Real Estate Team 510-748-5300	2 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$509,000
5 Dow Ct. Open Sunday George Williams 510-814-4833 Harbor Bay Realty	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$495,000
110 Arlington Open Sat & Sun Dec Pro-Rentals 510-814-4847 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2 + BA	2-4	\$490,000
2790 Calhoun St. Open Sunday George Williams 510-814-4833 Harbor Bay Realty	380/1 + BA	2-4	\$485,000
811 Park St. Open Sunday Janice Payne 510-748-1115, Gallagher & Lindsey	380/2 + BA	2-4	\$479,000
211 Inverness Ct. Open Sunday Ty Whitcher 510-748-1118 Gallagher & Lindsey	380/2BA	2-4	\$470,000
424 McDowell Open Sunday Jane Francis 510-814-4810 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2 -- BA	2-4	\$469,000
805 Lincoln Open Sunday 510-814-4889 Harbor Bay Realty	2 units	2-4	\$445,500
103 Bay Park Ter Open Sunday Dec Pro-Rentals 514-4833 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2BA	120-3	\$438,000
3211 Ferndale Open Sunday Marly Pomeroy 510-814-4845 Harbor Bay Realty	2 + BD/1BA	2-4	\$425,000
Open Park Open Sunday Jan Powers 523-1144 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2,5BA	2-4	\$412,500
403 Laguardia Open Sunday Marly Pomeroy 510-814-4845 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2,5BA	2-4	\$410,000
1909 Everett Open Sunday Ken Williams 510-814-4831 Harbor Bay Realty	2 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$409,000
30 Shepherdson Open Sunday Dore Vidal 510-814-4824 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2BA	2-4	\$379,500
1115 Willow Open Sunday John Ward 510-814-4870 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2BA	2-4	\$376,000
1203 Union Open Sunday Craig Riffe 510-822-8222 Harbor Bay Realty	380/2.5	2-4	\$375,000

ALAMEDA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1000 Eastler Lane Open Sunday Walt Jacobs 514-4710 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2BA	2-4	\$374,500
226 Santa Clara Open Sunday Misty Hart 510-823-0748 Kane & Associates	280/	2-4	\$360,000
450 G Cole Ballena Open Sunday Deirdre Olson 510-814-4875 Harbor Bay Realty	280/2BA	2-4	\$347,000
955 Shorepoint Ct. Open Sunday Joanna Letticia 510-748-1113, Gallagher & Lindsey	280/2BA	2-4	\$218,000

ALBANY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
819 Ramona Prudential CA Realty, Hal Wells (510) 845-0200	280/1BA	2-4	\$399,000
820 Key Route Open Sunday Ashley O'Neill 510-339-6460, Pacific Union	380/1BA	2-4	\$299,000

BERKELEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1864 Yosemite. Open Sunday Gene Milstein 510-827-8822, Milstein & Associates	480/2BA	2-4	\$1,900,000
6850 Charing Cross Open Sunday Prudential/Ann Maja Middleton (510) 325-5143	480/2,5BA	2-6	\$895,000
3 Maybrook Twin Drive Open Sunday Korah Brown (510) 524-9888 x126 Berkeley Hills Rty.	380/1.5BA	2-4	\$845,000
629 Woodmont Colleen Larkin 510-848-1950 x250, Thorneill Properties	380/3BA	2-4	\$649,000
1039 Overlook Rd. Open Sun. Maya Trilling (510) 524-9888 x126 Berkeley Hills Rty.	480/3BA	2-4	\$645,000
557 Arlington Ave Open Sunday Anet Targoff, Targoff & Talbot 510-653-2050	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$600,000
1617 Spruce Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2107, Marsha	480/1BA	2-4	\$595,000
2428 Prince St. Open Sun. Jean Shirley Aika (510) 524-9888 x16 Berkeley Hills Rty.	280/1.5BA	2-4	\$499,000
2408 McGee Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2103, Marc	380/1BA	2-4	\$389,000
1741 Oregon St. Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2178, Grace	380/1BA	2-4	\$369,000
2836 Stanton Open Sun. Mary Casavan, 510-848-1950 x122, Thorneill Properties	380/1BA	1-6	\$335,000
1519 Oxford #C Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2140, Barbara	280/1BA	2-4	\$319,000
1519 Oxford #D Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2140, Barbara	280/1.5BA	2-4	\$299,000

CASTRO VALLEY

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
18318 Pepper St. Open Saturday Joanna Letticia 510-748-1113, Gallagher & Lindsey	480/3BA	12-2	\$480,000

EL CERRITO

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1011 King x Mooser Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2140, Barbara	380/2BA	2-4	\$895,000
7316 Plank Ct. Open Sun. Victor Ratta, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	380/2BA	1-4	\$389,000
2214 Tulare Open Sun. RED OAK 510-290-2132, Bob	380/2BA	2-4	\$379,000
933 Norvell Street Open Sun. Carol Heath-Kim Prudential Realty (510) 525-2346	380/2BA	2-4	\$348,000



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The Journal & The Alameda Journal
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KENSINGTON

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
282 Grizzly Peak Blvd. Paul Alarabi, 510-332-4227, Century 21 Heritage Real Estate	380/1BA	1-4	\$529,000

MORAGA

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
1383 Camino Pablo Open Sunday Jim Rasmussen 510-254-3030 Coldwell Banker	580/3BA	1-4	\$750,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
633 Treble Glen Open Sun. Prudential CA Realty, Candice Economides (510) 845-0200	480/2,5BA	2-4	\$2,895,000
900 Alvarado Rd. Open Sun, Claremont Pines David Eckert 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	480/3BA	2-4	\$1,450,000
48 Lincolnshire Dr. Open Sun, Claremont Pines Linda McChau, Tanne, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	580/4 + BA	2-4	\$1,375,000
1650 Grand View Dr. # 4 Open Sun, Claremont Pines Lori Lombard, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/4BA	2-4	\$1,325,000
1 Downey Pl. Open Sun, Crocker Highlands Donna Convey 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	480/4 + BA	2-6	\$1,299,000
1842 Grandview Open Sun, Claremont Pines K. Plattford, Prudential CA 510-889-5376	380/3 - BA	2-4	\$1,200,000
18 Observation Pl. Open Sun, Montclair Debra J. Dryden, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/4BA	2-4	\$1,195,000
3030 Hollywood Open Sun, Piedmont Pines Donna Convey, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	380/2 - BA	1-4	\$1,195,000
729-735 Hillgirt Cir. Prudential, Wendy Keshino 510-845-0200.	4 + Units	2-4	\$1,180,000
6016 Rockledge Blvd. # 3 Open Sun, Rockledge Georgia Cornell 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$1,150,000
10-20 Bishops Ct. #2nd/3rd/4th RE/MAX, Mike Elmore 925-362-1616	4/2nd/3rd/4th	2-5	\$1,125,000
1215 Alvarado Rd. # 5 Open Sun, Rockledge Joanna Hirsch 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	5 + BD/4BA	2-4	\$1,095,000
120 Sheridan Rd. Open Sun, Rockledge Cherie Hunt, Prudential CA Realty 510-337-8870	4 + BD/3BA	2-4	\$998,000
781 Haddon Place Open Sun, Upper Rockledge Prudential CA Realty, Candice Economides (510) 845-0200	480/2,5BA	2-4	\$925,000
249 Sheridan Open Sun, Upper Rockledge Mary Drosser, Prudential 510-339-9230	380/3 - BA	2-4	\$828,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
53 Bay Forest Open Sun, No. Oakland Hills Wendy Gardner 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	480/3 - BA	2-4	\$818,000
4869 Harbord Dr. Open Sun, Upper Rockledge Michael Thompson, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	4 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$799,000
4869 Harbord Dr. Open Sun, Upper Rockledge Michael Thompson, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	480/2BA	2-6	\$799,000
6607 Heartwood Dr. Open Sun, Montclair Debra Larson, Prudential 510-339-9230	3 + BD/3BA	2-4	\$797,000
6400 Longcroft Open Sun, Montclair Nora Robinson, Better Homes 510-339-8400	4 + BD/3BA	2-4	\$795,000
6861 Cotton Blvd. Open Sun, Montclair Ann Nichols 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	480/3 - BA	2-4	\$750,000
7125 Woodrow Open Sun, Montclair Martha Sun, Better Homes 510-339-8400	480/3BA	2-4	\$748,000
18041 Broadway Ter. Open Sun, Claremont Pines Lori Lombard, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	580/3BA	2-4	\$748,000
7128 Thornhill Open Sun, Claremont Pines Michael Thompson, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	480/2,5BA	2-6	\$698,000
124 Sonia St. Open Sun, Rockledge Nancy Wiley, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	4 + BD/2BA	2-6	\$668,000
3362 Burrell Dr. Open Sun, Chagrin Valley Jody Edmonson, Better Homes 510-339-4000	480/2,5BA	2-4	\$665,000
5324 Masonic Ave. Open Sun, Upper Rockledge Julie Lehman, Prudential CA 510-845-0211	380/2BA	2-6	\$630,000
2690 Las Armas Open Sun, Piedmont Pines Ellen Lancaster, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	3 + BD/2BA	1-4	\$598,000
6824 Wilton Open Sun, Piedmont Pines Bob Miller, Prudential Landmark RE, 510-982-0214	380/2BA	2-4	\$595,000
5850 Chabot Ct. Open Sun. Kathryn Hill/Nancy Foss 510-948-1950 x242.	280/2/1BA	2-4	\$559,500
5915 Mazzella Open Sun/Montclair Charlene Claybaugh, Better Homes 510-339-8400	380/2BA	2-4	\$559,000
1000 Mandana Open Sun, Crocker Highland Gay Robinson, Better Homes 510-339-4000	480/2BA	2-4	\$548,999
2110 Mastlands Dr. Prudential CA Realty, Nancy Bailey (510) 845-0200	380/4BA	2-4	\$538,000

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3360 Monterey Open Sun, Rockwood Heights Cheryl Hargett 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	480/3BA	2-4	\$538,000
5123 Parkridge Dr. Open Sun, Rockwood Heights Vicki Hensel 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	480/2BA	2-4	\$538,000
2765 Carlsbrook Dr. Open Sun, Rockwood Heights Helen Nicholas, 510-339-8900 Century 21 Heritage R.E.	380/1.5BA	2-4	\$535,000
6385 Longcroft Open Sun, Piedmont Pines Donna Convey 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	380/2BA	2-4	\$529,000
531 Prince Open Sun, Lakeside Ruby Ng, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	3 + BD/3BA	1-4	\$499,000
605 Wesley Way Open Sun, Lakeside Tim Anthony 510-339-4700 Pacific Union	580/2 - BA	2-4	\$495,000
40th St X Cerrito Ave. Open Sunday, www.PiedmontAreaRealty.com Lawton Associates, Ron Kries, Lou Lovett 510-547-5970	380/3BA	12-6	\$468,000
160 Malden Ln. Open Sun, Lincoln Heights Mira Kaler 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$468,000
40th St X Cerrito Ave. Open Sunday, www.PiedmontAreaRealty.com Lawton Associates, Ron Kries, Lou Lovett 510-547-5970	280/2BA	12-6	\$479,000
9527 Granada Open Sunday Earle Sherk, Better Homes 510-339-4000	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$475,000
5445 Carlton St. Open Sunday Ann Bracci 510-748-1817, Gallagher & Lindsey	280/1BA	1-6	\$468,000
5418 Harbord Open Sun, Rockledge Duplex David Higgins, Prudential 510-845-0200	180/1BA	1-4	\$468,000
40th St X Cerrito Ave. Open Sunday, www.PiedmontAreaRealty.com Lawton Associates, Ron Kries, Lou Lovett 510-547-5970	280/2BA	12-6	\$449,000
40th St X Cerrito Ave. Open Sunday, www.PiedmontAreaRealty.com Lawton Associates, Ron Kries, Lou Lovett 510-547-5970	280/2BA	12-6	\$429,000
5784 Vicente St. Open Sun, Rockledge District Prudential CA Realty, Andrew Sassaman (510) 845-0200	3 + BD/4BA	2-4	\$409,000
40th St X Cerrito Ave. Open Sunday, www.PiedmontAreaRealty.com Lawton Associates, Ron Kries, Lou Lovett 510-547-5970	280/2BA	12-6	\$398,000
247 4th St #406 Open Sun, Jack London Sq. Ed Kuo, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	Left space	2-4	\$389,000
2763 Chelsea Dr. Open Sun, Montclair Vince Moran, Prudential 510-339-9230	380/2BA	2-4	\$385,000
4166 Webster Open Sun, Temescal Lisa Friedman, Prudential 510-986-9547	380/2BA	2-6	\$373,000
4166 Webster Open Sun, Temescal Lisa Friedman, Prudential 510-986-9547	380/2BA	2-6	\$373,000
78 Elysian Fields Open Sunday Prudential, Carmen Grix (510) 524-2526	380/2BA	2-4	\$375,000
63 Sereno Open Sunday Michael Studebaker 510-748-1128, Gallagher & Lindsey	280/2BA	1-6	\$368,000
5355 Broadway Ter. Open Sun, Rockledge Ashley O'Neill 510-339-6460, Pacific Union	280/2BA	2-4	\$359,000
10433 Foothill Blvd. # 5 Open Sun, Elmont Victor Fenn, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	3 + BD/3BA	2-4	\$350,000
2537 Seismic Open Sun, Elmont Victor Fenn, 510-339-4700 Coldwell Banker	2 + BD/1BA	2-4	\$348,000
7308 Altura Pl. Open Sunday Tore Lee 510-814-4840 Harbor Bay Realty	1 + BD/1BA	2-4	\$348,900
4006 Lincoln Open Sun, Lincoln Sharon Ho, Prudential 510-339-9230	280/1BA	2-4	\$325,000
2828 Filbert St. Open Sat. 8 Industrial Network spaces Cheryl Hargett 510-339-6460 ext. 345 Pacific Union	Lofts	12-3/270, 000-1,000 sq. ft.	

OAKLAND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
3020 Florida St. Open Sun, Laurel Jackie Carter, Richardson R.E./Realty 510-632-2539	280/1BA	2-4	\$285,000
2554 85th Ave. Open Sunday Helen Bay, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	280/1 + BA	2-4	\$280,000
325 Lenox #108 Open Sun, Adams Point Lisa Friedman, Prudential 510-986-9547	280/1 + BA	2-6	\$242,500
325 Lenox #108 Open Sunday Lisa Friedman, Prudential 510-986-9547	280/1 + BA	2-6	\$242,500
9988 Lincolnton St. Open Sunday Lori Collier 510-339-6460 Pacific Union	280/1BA	2-4	\$229,000
1116 Seminary Ave. Open Sunday Zaggy Baranowski, Prudential 510-339-9230	280/2BA	2-4	\$221,980
4117 D Pennington Ct. Open Sunday Dan Joy, 510-339-8900 Century 21 Heritage R.E.	280/1BA	2-4	\$218,000
85 Vernon #302 Open Sun, Adams Point Prudential CA Realty 510-845-0200, Stephanie Jones 510-337-3865	180/1BA	2-4	\$199,000
5343 Broadway Ter. Open Sunday Marian Wilson, 510-339-8900 Century 21 Heritage R.E.	180/1BA	2-4	\$198,000
117 W. Embarcadero Open Sun, Jack London Square District Prudential CA Realty, 510-845-0200, Rigel Cabezas 510-303-6504	180/1BA	2-4	\$168,000
68 Bellevue Ave. Open Sunday Michelle Winchester, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3BA	2-4	\$159,000
431 Pacific Ave. Open Sunday Elizabeth Dickson, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	480/3BA	2-4	\$995,000
533 Blair Ave. Open Sunday Mel Copland, 510-339-8900 Century 21 Heritage R.E.	380/2 + BA	2-4	\$348,000
20 Jerome Ave. Open Sunday Erica Calero, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	3 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$338,000
350 Magnolia Ave. Open Sunday Mindy Scott, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	380/2BA	2-4	\$688,000
11 Cambridge Way Open Sunday Angela Wei Gubb, The GRUBB Co. 510-339-0400	1 + BD/2BA	2-4	\$619,000

RICHMOND

Address & Realty	Size	Hours	Price
2530 Beach Head Way Open Sun, Richmond Marina Prudential/Sohal Sodefi (510) 525-5143	280/2 + BA	2-6	\$334,500
3429 Esmond Ave. Open Sun; North & East Brent Weinstein, Realty Advocates 510-428-0757.	380/1BA	2-4	\$245,000



ALAMO

1 Alamo Highlands
New Release! Luxury Homes from the \$1,300,000's. 3214-1177 sq. ft. Exit 1-680 @ Stone Valley Road East for 1 mile across from Roundhill Country Club. Open Sat 12-5 pm. Branch Development, Tom Kreider. Sales Agent: 925-838-0260

2 Stone Valley Oaks
From low \$1,000,000's. Now open! Luxurious homes on 13 to 1 acre lots, in Alamo's oak-studded foothills of Stone Valley Rd. Up to 5200 sq. ft. By award-winning SummerHill Homes. 925-838-4230. Visit www.summerhillhomes.com.

ALMANOR

3 Almamor Lakeside Villas
Lakeside Gated Community of Luxury Homes. From \$488,000 by Tucker Assoc. of Alamo. 3-6BR, 4-5BA, 1700-2850 sq. ft., w/priate beach & individual boat slips. Models open Sat & Sun 10 to 2. Coldwell Banker 1-800-419-3318 or www.almamorkassidesvillas.com.

AMERICAN CANYON

4 Bella Terra
From low \$300,000's. The gateway to the wine country. 2 neighborhoods w/spacious 4-6BR single fam. homes on large lots. Napa schools, convenient commutes. 707-688-1655. www.greystonhomes.com

5 Chasapeake
From the low \$300,000's. Info Center Now Open. Quaint Victorian-style homes in gated American Canyon community. 3-5 BR in up to 2584 sq. ft., comfortable floorplans, many room options and community accessible to NAPA school district, tot lot. 209-558-0288. www.westernpacifichousing.com

6 La Siena at Montevino
From low \$400,000's. New Selling. Lg. homes up to 6BR, 4BA, 3600+ sq. ft. Views/country club. By Marine World, Carqueize Br. & 180. Open Tues-Sun 10-6. Open Mon 3-8. Richmond American Homes. 1-707-642-2380. www.richmondamerican.com

7 Poppy Meadows
From the \$300,000's. Schuler Homes presents fiber optic technology and steel-framed construction. These 1- and 2-story single family homes range from 1945 to 2501 sq. ft., 4-5 BR, Take Hwy 680 North to 720 North to 180 North to Hwy 37 west, to Hwy 29 north, left on Kimberly and left on Poppyfield Dr. Sales Office is open daily 10-5 except for Tues. Tues. 1-5. 707-558-8097. www.schulera.com

8 The Preserve
From the low \$400,000's. Phase 3 Release! 1 and 2 story, 2378-3358 sq. ft., 3-6BR, 2-5-4BA, 3-car & 4-car gar. Natural preserve, Napa River, parks and trails. Kids walk to school. 280 West American Canyon Rd. Hummingbird. Open 10-6. www.HomesByDavidson.com. 707-558-9388

9 Antioch
360 Degrees at Bear Ridge
Final Phase. From the mid \$400,000's. Luxury hill-top homes 2292 to 3817 sq. ft., 4-6BR, w/luxury space options on lg. lots averaging 9700 sq. ft. Kiper Homes. Hwy 4 take Hillside exit, right on Golden Bear Dr. Right on Bear Ridge Way. 925-755-3600.

10 Aspen Grove
From mid \$300,000's. Extraordinary residences with 3,180 to 3,554 sq. ft., up to 6BR & 3-car garages. Sales office open daily 11-5. 214 Lindell Ct. (925) 522-0627. Warmington Homes CA.

11 Huntington Park
From the mid \$200,000's. 3-5BR detached homes from 1780-2185 sq. ft. feature a contemporary new spin on classic ranch architecture. Lone Tree to Golf Course. Open Wed 10-5, Sat/Sun 11-5. 925-754-4668. www.richlandinfo.com

12 Lone Tree Estates-Gallery Collection
From the mid \$300,000's. Phase 3 Release! 2-story, 2356-3349 sq. ft., 3-6BR, 2-5-4BA, 3-car gar. Ext. amenities & options. PG&E comfort home. HOA fee. Center. Lone Tree Estates. Davidson Homes. Open 10-6. www.HomesByDavidson.com. 925-778-3092

13 Lion Ridge
From the mid \$300,000's. William Lyon Homes Inc. presents 4 & 5 BR homes, tucked along hillsides w/lt. Diablo views. Four floorplans, 2500-3434 sq. ft., 3 car gar., flex opt. 925-755-0161

14 Meadow Creek Springs
From the low \$400,000's. New neighborhood of estate style homes up to 3212 sq. ft., 4-6BR, 3 car garages. Near shopping, schools & parks. Hillcrest to Lone Tree. 925-755-9270. www.seenhomes.com

15 Provance at Laurel Ridge
From high \$300,000's. Now Selling. Lux. single-fam. home designs to 3636 sq. ft., 6BR, 4BA. Grt commute loc. Hwy 4 E at Lone Tree Way, rt Deer Valley, rt Prevett Ranch, rt Marigold. Open Tues.-Sun 10-6. Mon 3-6. 925-779-3402. www.richmondamerican.com

16 Terrazza at Laurel Ridge
From low \$300,000's. Now Selling. Lux. & affordable! Single-fam. home up to 3410 sq. ft., 7 BR, 4 BA. Great commute. Open Tues.-Sun 10-6. Mon 3-6. Hwy 4 E exit Lone Tree Way to Deer Valley Rd. to Prevett Ranch to Marigold. 925-778-5307. www.richmondamerican.com

17 Tourelle
From the mid \$300,000's. New Release! Richland's 4-6BR 3-4 car gar., 1-2 stories, 2715-3935 sq. ft., 10,000+ sq. ft. lots. Dramatic entries. Lone Tree/Golf Course Rd. Wed-Fri 10-5, Sat/Sun 11-5. 925-706-8883 or www.richlandinfo.com

18 Viera Ranch
From the \$290,000's. Located in the heart of the Del Norte ridge to the Sierras. Nice area. Choose from 5 floor plans w/3-6BR, 2-5BA & 1799-2698 sq. ft. KB Home 925-978-2800.

BRENTWOOD

18 Belvedere
From mid \$200,000's. Now Previewing! 10 floor plans to choose from. Single family homes from 1412 to 2535 sq. ft. Open daily 10-5, weekends 11-5. A Grube Community 925-240-0263. www.grube.com

19 Brentwood Hills
From the \$300,000's. Coming Soon. Allessa & Serena in Brentwood Hills. Featuring 3 & 6BR homes ranging from 1582-3113 sq. ft. Call 1-800-SheaHomes or visit www.sheahomes.com.

BRENTWOOD

20 California Orchard
From the \$300,000's. Great location, excel school. Close to the Delta. Choose from 9 floor plans w/3-6BR, 2-3BA & 1452-3753 sq. ft. KB Home 925-240-7703

21 Campanello
From low \$300,000's. Biggest, most luxurious in Brentwood! Seven designs, 2590-4171 sq. ft., 4 & 5BR, customizing options. Opt for up to 6BR! Centex Homes Open 10-5. 925-634-4783

22 Heartstone
From the \$300,000's. Morrison Homes. All new home designs ranging from 1958-3262 sq. ft. Call sales office for info open daily 10am-5pm. From Hwy 4, exit Ballou Rd. South, rt. on Fairview Ave, rt. on Sand Creek Rd. to models loc at 1205 Jasmine Ct. 925-513-1057

23 Heritage Grove
From high \$300,000's. Spacious 3-5 BR new charming downtown, great schools, new library 10-16, Mon. 12-6. Signature Properties 925-513-1057

24 Lyon Rhapody
From the mid \$200,000's. Lyon Rhapody features 3 & 4 bedroom homes from approx. 1,239 to 2,092 sq. ft. with flexible room options. Close to malls, shopping, schools and easy commuting along Vasco Road. William Lyon Homes 925-881-5966

25 Meridian Pointe
From the mid \$300,000's. Beautifully designed craftsman-style homes located off Fairview & Minnesota by Kiper Homes 2292-3827 sq. ft., 4-6 BR and variety of flex space options. From Livermore take Vasco north to Ballou, turn left and go to Fairview, right at Empress to sales office. For more information, call 925-240-1900

26 Parkview at Garin Ranch
From mid \$200,000's. A collection of 8 home designs from 3 to 5BR in a master-planned setting. Open 10-6 Tues-Sat 10-6. Mon Signature Properties 925-513-1057. www.sigprop.com

27 Providence
Upper \$200,000's. Providence in Brentwood offers the Bay Area's most affordable homes. Our 3 & 4BR in this serene country setting range from 1515-2695 sq. ft. Open 10-5 daily. Call 925-240-5880 or visit www.sheahomes.com

28 Shadow Lakes
From the \$300,000's. Three new neighborhoods - Inverness, Finestrut, Turnbury - 14 models at master-planned golf course community in Brentwood. Single- and multi-level plans from 1,882 to 3,705 sq. ft., up to 6 bedrooms 925-240-7820

CITRUS HEIGHTS

29 Creekside
From low \$200,000's. Homes w/lux to 6BR, 3BA & 2520 sq. ft. Offering a great loc. in the San Juan School Dist. Open Tues-Sat 10-5 & Mon 1-5. (916) 726-8997. www.kbhome.com

CONCORD

Claremont Estates at Crystall Ranch
From low \$600,000's. Estate-style homes in gorgeous hillside setting. Up to nearly 4000 sq. ft., luxury amenities. 1-680 to Hwy 91 (east), rt. on Crystall Ranch Drive and follow it to the end. (925) 671-9332. www.pulte.com

31 The Enclave at Crystall Ranch
From upper \$500,000's. Luxury homes, offering 4 spec. flr. plans, 2400-3200 sq. ft. View & oversized homesites avail. Comm. cbls., pool, tennis & park. Elegant int., custom opt. Ygnacio Valley Rd., rt. Crystall Ranch Dr. to models. 925-687-3522. www.LegacyLuxuryHomes.com

32 The Pointe at Crystall Ranch
From upper \$600,000's. Features 4 elegant flr. plans for the discriminating buyer. 3200-4500 sq. ft. nestled in rolling hillsides of Mt. Diablo. Comm. cbls., house, pool, tennis & park. Ygnacio Valley Rd., rt. Crystall Ranch Dr. to models. 925-671-9030. www.LegacyLuxuryHomes.com

33 Autumn Creek West
From the upper \$800,000's. "Dusty Shore" Preview! Ten luxury estate homes. Close-in creekside location. 4-5 BR, 2-5-4 BA, 2820 to 3930 sq. ft. At the end of Mission Place, off Camino Tassajara Rd. For information call Lenox Homes at 925-284-0415. Broker open

34 Magee Ranch
From \$1,750,000's. 3 magnificent custom homes open on priv. lane. Almost 3000 acres with exquisite views. 680/Diablo Rd. E. to Blackhawk Rd., rt. to Magee Ranch. Viewing by appt. 925-837-8900

35 Quail Gardens
Models Open! Located in premiere area of Danville, this new neighborhood will feature its own swim pool and offer spectacular, fully appointed 3 & 4BR homes. Two elegant floor plans of 2320 and 2470 sq. ft. will be available. For more information visit us at www.castlecompanies.com or call 925-648-7958.

36 Stevens Ranch Estates
New Release. Priced from the high \$900,000's. Single story & two story, 3200-3650 sq. ft., 4-6 BR. Daily 1-5, closed Tues & Wed. www.bradcoandlodge.com. 925-448-9418.

37 The Village at Old Blackhawk Road
NOW SELLING! Priced from high \$700,000's. Exclusive new community by Richmond American Homes. 5 plans up to 3740 sq. ft., 4-5BR, 4-5BA. Outstanding Danville location near business centers. Open Sat-Wed 10-6. 925-648-7995. www.richmondamerican.com

DAVIS

Monclair at Wildhorse
Beautiful 3, 4 & 5BR homes w/lux to 4-car garages in an excellent location adjacent to the Wildhorse Golf Course. Close to great shopping, restaurants & easy I-80 commute. Open 10am to 6pm. Call (530) 759-0208 for details.

DISCOVERY BAY

Harvest Cove
From mid \$300,000's. Information Sales Trailer now open! Superb 4-5BR homes w/lux to 4BA by Standard Pacific Homes. 4 spacious floor plans ranging from approx. 2230-3562 sq. ft. Call 925-240-1750 or visit our web site at www.standardpacifichomes.com.

Kensington

Now Open-From the low \$300,000's. Offering 3-6BR & ranging from 1924-3480 sq. ft., these beautifully appointed homes feature bonus rooms, lots & home offices. Open daily 925-634-0500

DUBLIN

Chanteram at Dublin Ranch
From mid \$800,000's. By Brookfield Homes. Grand Opening. Custom-crafted, 2-story fam. homes in Tuscan, Mediterranean/Montecito arch. styles. Up to 6BR, 4BA, approx. 3500-3800 sq. ft. Within Dublin Ranch master-planned community, exit Tassajara Rd. off I-580. Open daily 10-5. 925-828-0724.

Mayfield at Dublin Ranch
From the mid \$600,000's. Coming in late spring. 3-6BR & up to 3600 sq. ft., by Shea Homes. Call 925-875-9911 for more information. Visit us on the web. www.sheahomes.com

Stonestreet at Dublin Ranch
From low \$900,000's. FINAL RELEASE of these luxurious estate homes, some w/ views of the valley. Choose from approx. 3201-4039 sq. ft. w/4BR, 5-6BA. Incentives apply. Ask for details. Easy commuting, great shopping & topnotch schools. Centex Homes. 925-675-1191

Tassajara Meadows
From \$400,000's. Models Open! Premier commute loc. near ex. schools, employment & rec. 4 flex. plans, 1658-2127 sq. ft., 3-4BR, mstr. suites, gourmet kit, fam. rms, w/whirl in theaters. 925-675-0001. The Mission Peak Co.

The Glen at Dublin Greene
From the mid \$600,000's. 4 & 5BR estate homes. Up to 2880 sq. ft. Near shops, schools, BART, 580. Sales information center open 10-5. 925-875-0112. www.kbhome.com

The Vineyards at Dublin Greene
Upper \$500,000's. Country estate homes from 1270-1740 sq. ft. Near shops, BART, 580, schools. Sales center open 10-5. 925-875-0221

Canyon Oaks
From the high \$400,000's. Grand Opening! Beautiful new homes in gorgeous hillside by Richmond American Homes. 4 flr. plans ranging in size from approx. 2004-2500 sq. ft. w/4BR, 5-6BA. Great commute loc. off I-80 & San Pablo Dam Rd. Open Tues-Wed, Sat/Sun 10-6. 510-223-7160. www.richmondamerican.com

West Lake Island
From mid \$200,000's. 6 lg. 1- & 2-story floor plans from 1739-2857 sq. ft. w/3-6BR, Great loc. in Laguna West. Open Tues-Sat 10-5 & Mon 1-5. (916) 691-2774. www.kbhome.com

FAIRFIELD

Green Valley Lake/The Vineyards
From the \$300,000's. 2 model complexes. New 1- & 2-story homes w/3-6BR & 1300-3530 sq. ft. Easy access to I-80 Lake nearby. Nestled in rolling hills. Open Tues-Sun 10-5 & Mon 1-5. (707) 863-7995 or (707) 207-0758. www.kbhome.com

Fairy Falls and Lyon Brook at Woodlake
From the low \$300,000's. Two new communities in a great location near schools, shopping and freeways. 3 & 4 bedroom homes from approx. 1870 to 3255 sq. ft. 707-626-6262. 707-626-9311. Flexible room options. William Lyon Homes

Oak Hills Classics & Estates
From low \$300,000's. Standard Pacific Homes, a builder/owner 4 decades of building experience, brings you a fine collection of single fam. homes w/entry schools & recreational opportunities. Including a golf course. 4-5BR homes, up to 3BA & state-of-the-art kitchens. Classics 707-421-9202. Estates 707-428-5310. Visit our web site at www.standardpacifichomes.com

The Ranch
From the upper \$200,000's. NOW SELLING. PREVIEW FURNISHED MODELS. 3 new home communities in The Ranch master-planned community. 3-5BR, 1743-3245 sq. ft. Open 10-6. 925-671-2123. www.westernpacifichousing.com

Visions at Vintage Green Valley
From high \$300,000's. Spacious, well-appointed 4 & 5 BR, 2331-3555 sq. ft. w/lux. rm. opt. Private loc. close to schools, shopping, Views! Daily 11-6. Clation Northern. 707-884-8470.

HAYWARD

Bayley Ranch
From high \$600,000's. Luxury 4-7BR homes loc. in the scenic Hayward Hills. Lg. lots, views. Easy access to 2 BART stations & freeways. Open daily 10-6. Mon 1-5. www.sigprop.com. 510-889-8556

HERCULES

Belleterra
From the \$400,000's. 4BR, 3BA, Opt. 5th BR, den. Steel-built structured cabling. Bay Views. Open Sat/Sun 10-6. 510-741-9165. www.schulera.com

Coventry
From mid \$400,000's. Clation Northern presents a coveting, a collection of 40 exclusive Queen Anne architectural styled homes w/3-5BR w/appr. 2256-2830 sq. ft. Features include traditional wood trim, ornamental shingles & front porches. 510-984-1940.

WERNER

Creekside
Preview priced from upper \$300,000's. Elegant paired homes, 3 sophisticated plans, 1479-1772 sq. ft., 3-4BR, 2-5BA. Open daily 10-5, Fri 2-5. Take 580 to N. Vasco Rd., rt. on Northridge Rd., rt. on Herman Ave. 925-443-2389 or www.westernpacifichousing.com for info.

Dunsmuir
From high \$600,000's. Luxurious 4.5 & 6BR, Arts & Crafts Era styling. Avg. 9500 sq. ft. sites. Surrounded by beautiful vineyards. Signature Properties. Daily 10-6. Mon. 12-6. 925-961-1605.

Prima
From mid \$600,000's. Estate-style homes in heart of the Valley wine country. 6 designs ranging from 2424 to 4367 sq. ft. in size. 1- & 2 story plans accentuate indoor/outdoor living w/ variety of architectural styles. Easy access to I-580, I-680 & Hwy. 84. Visit daily 10-5. 925-961-0751. Centex Homes. www.visitprima.com

VINTERS GREEN

From high \$600,000's. 3, 4 & 5BR single-family homes. To visit, take I-580 E to the First St. Exit Go So. on First St., becomes Holmes St. Right on Alden Ln. Greystone Homes 925-456-5831. www.greystonehomes.com

MARTINEZ

Wisteria
From high \$400,000's. Single story and 2 story homes from 2160-2700 sq. ft. with a great location. Open Mon 1-6 daily 11-5. Call (925) 521-1307

Sonsara
From \$1 million. FINAL PHASE RELEASE. Award-winning homes w/ an eclectic blend of architecture styles. 3-5BR homes w/lux to 3800 sq. ft. Handcrafted entries w/ granite tile, fireplace master bedroom. Sales Vision home open daily 10-5. Camino Ricardo & Moraga Way. Taylor Woodrow Homes 925-314-2700

Liberty Ranch Estates
FINAL RELEASE! Priced from \$390,500. 4BR, 2 & 3BA, 1884 to 2120 sq. ft. adjacent to vineyard 707-265-3311. Silverdevelopment.com libertyranch

NOVATO

Inspiration
From \$1.3 million. Handcrafted homes atop the highest point in Marin. Spectacular views of the community and bay. Taylor Woodrow Homes. 10-5 daily 877-422-HOME

Tranquility
From \$1.3 million. COMING SOON. Handcrafted homes surrounded by woodlands & open spaces. Taylor Woodrow Homes. For preview info, call 877-422-HOME

OAKLAND

Altavilla Estates
Preview Opening. Views with a LUXURY HOME. 22 Executive 4 & 5BR, 2-5-3BA 5101 Redwood Rd. near Oak Hills Tennis Club. Open Sat & Sun 10-6. (510) 531-5304

MARSH CREEK

From the \$200,000's. Best value (per sq. ft.) in Oakland! Central location. Choose from 6 floorplans with 3-7 BR 2-3 BA, & 1585-2695 sq. ft. KB Homes. 925-673-1760

PINOLE

Harbour Cove
Priced from low \$500,000's. Beautiful 4-5BR family homes. Some w/ Bay views. 2000-2400 sq. ft. Easy commute. Hwy 80 east to Pinole. Exit at Appian Way, left on Appian Way to San Pablo Ave, left on Pinole. Sales Office at Pinole Shores Dr. right at Pinole Shores Dr. Open 10-6 daily. 925-954-0382

Sunnyvale Court Classics
From \$325,000. Lovely 2 story, 3 BR, 2.5 BA, 1504 sq. ft. of affordable living. These homes boast a fireplace in the living room plus vaulted ceiling in the master BR. Open Sat & Sun 1-5. OR Hwy 80, take Appian Way towards the bay, turn left at San Pablo Ave., right at Sunnyvale, and left on Way Circle SW. 925-8537 or 510-954-1563

PITTSBURG

Harbor Lights
From the mid \$200,000's. Schuler Homes is opening their new Harbor Lights with fiber optic technology and steel-framed construction. These 2-story single family homes range from approx. 1931 to 2158 sq. ft., 3-4 BR. From HWY 4, take Bay Rd. North to turn right at Willow Pass Rd. and proceed W. to Harbor Lights. Office is open daily 10-5 except for Tues 1-5. 925-431-0446. www.schulera.com

Highlands Ranch
From high \$200,000's. 1734-4000 sq. ft., 3-5BR, 2-5BA, 2-3 car gar., great oak decks, lots, media cabling. NR shopping, schools/ hwy. Off Buchanan Rd., bet Livermore & Somersville. 925-439-9070. www.seenhomes.com

Mira Vista Grande
GRAND OPENING ON LINE @ MYHOMEID.COM from the low \$300's. 4 & 5BR, up to 3600 sq. ft. with 3-car garages. Water and hillside views. James Donlan Blvd. to Hummingbird Dr. (925) 755-3553. www.seenhomes.com

Monterra, Oak Crest
From low \$300,000's. New release of water view lots! 4-5BR, 3 plans, 2100-2500 sq. ft. 2nd mstr./dens/retreats. NR. hwy. w/alt. BART Hwy 9/Albany Rd. South on Leland, rt. Southwood 925-709-1037. www.seenhomes.com

PLEASANTON

Bridle Creek
From lower \$1,000,000's. Beautiful setting. Elegant homes in a classic style. 5-6BR, 3-5 BA & up to 4455 sq. ft. open daily 12-10-500. Greenbar Homes Communities 925-846-0333. www.greenbarhomes.com

Nolan Farms
From the mid \$400,000's. Models Grand Opening. Luxurious homes in desirable loc. near downtown Pleasanton & Alameda Co. Fairgrounds 3-car garages. View up to 4100 sq. ft. convenient to Hwy 680 by award-winning SummerHill Homes 925-426-9658. Visit www.summerhillhomes.com

Rivascio at Ruby Hill
From \$1.7 million. LIMITED RELEASE.

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700D Antioch

★ ★ ★ + BDRM/4 BA ★ ★
 Large lot, New construction,
 2522 Canyon Way, Antioch
 (925) 254-3313
 \$249,900 BDRM/4BA single story,
 new, part. pool, tile, appls, rock
 patio, rock, much more. No mello
 rose. In move. In 925/757-8848

700D Antioch

★ ★ ★ + BDRM/4 BA ★ ★
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700D Antioch

★ ★ ★ + BDRM/4 BA ★ ★
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 2522 Canyon Way, Antioch
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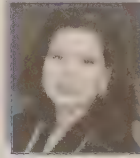
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SPORTS

• Friday, May 25, 2001 •

Section C

Baseball Albany-Berkeley girls softball results [C2]

Arts 'Laramie Project' looks at a traumatized town [C3]



RON SALSIG
Range Rat

A long, strange road home

Two East Bay golfers took a long, strange road home last Monday, with a strong mojo alive and working. Todd Fischer and Joel Kribel returned to their hometown of Pleasanton to play in local qualifying for the U.S. Open and ran away from the field to share medalist honors. Both shot 6-under-par 66 at Ruby Hill Golf Club in scorching heat, two shots better than third-place finisher Rich Bin of San Jose. It was the third week the magic they found back on the East Coast shined.

Rob Boldt of Walnut Creek and Garrett Wagner, a former teammate of Kribel's at Amador Valley High School, won the final two spots in sudden death. Mitch Lowe and Jeff Lyons earned alternate spots.

The Kribel/Fischer saga started in North Carolina three weeks ago. Fischer, a former People's Open champion, entered a Monday qualifier for the Buy.com event in Raleigh and shot a 66 to qualify for the Carolina Classic. He immediately hooked up with old friend Kribel, a four-time All-American at Stanford, who was exempt on that tour but going nowhere.

The two shared a rental car and the magic began. Fischer challenged for the title, finishing fourth. Kribel took 10th place. The next week, in Virginia Beach, Kribel finished 11th and Fischer 29th.

Something was obviously working while these two traveled together. Kribel earned over \$21,000 those two weeks to vault to 27th on the Buy.com money list with \$31,425, and the \$24,244 Fischer earned those two weeks placed him 33rd on the list.

"I need to get back out there because Joel seems to need me," Fischer said with a smile.

Whatever that magic is, it worked again at Ruby Hill. Kribel had five birdies and an eagle on the 8th hole for his 66. Fischer had eight birdies (including the final two holes) while suffering a double bogey on the 2nd hole.

Most golf fans remember Kribel as the Stanford teammate Tiger Woods defeated in an extremely tight semifinal match at Pumpkin Ridge in the U.S. Amateur Championship where Woods turned pro. The more astute golf fan remembers Kribel as the man Matt Kuchar defeated, 2-and-1 in the finals, to win the 1997 U.S. Amateur.

Kribel earned playing privileges in the U.S. Open and the Masters those two years, and he played well. His star shined when he turned pro and disappeared.

Kribel, who has been fighting swing changes, showed signs of life at last fall's Q-School with a 63 in the final round to jump from obscurity to 56th place, which earned him full exemption to the junior tour.

"It's real good to be home again," Kribel said. "I slept in my parent's home last night, for the first time in a long time."

Kribel will play in the sectional qualifying for the Open in Maryland. Fischer in Ohio. Both are four-stop qualifiers. In the meantime, their plans are solidified to journey through the Buy.com tour together.

"I made enough for entry fees for awhile," Fischer said. "It's funny how we both struggled until we met again in North Carolina."

The USGA official had only one medal to offer, and asked if

Denham fires 5-hitter, knocks Berkeley from North Coast

By Pete Elman
CORRESPONDENT

PLEASANT HILL — The Berkeley Yellowjackets had a fine season for rookie coach Tim Moellering, making it to the North Coast Section playoffs, albeit as a 16th seed.

Despite a poor stretch that saw them drop four straight, they still finished with an impressive 16-8 record, placing third (7-5) in the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League.

But on a sweltering Tuesday afternoon at Diablo Valley College, they ran into a sizzling buzz saw by the name of Daniel Denham, a 6-foot-1 senior pitcher from Deer Valley High in Antioch, who showed all in attendance why they should remember his name.

In a brilliant, seemingly effortless performance, the unflappable Denham pitched a complete-game shutout, allowing just five hits, no walks and striking out 13 while leading his team to a 4-0 victory in the first



DEER VALLEY'S JOEY RALEY attempted to tag home plate after being tagged out by Berkeley's Gabe Mellow. Playing in the opening round of the North Coast Section playoffs on May 22, the Deer Valley Wolverines turned back the Yellowjackets, winning 4-0.

round of the NCS.

Moellering, a soft-spoken, well-liked coach who also teaches history at Willard Middle School, knew his young squad had its work cut out for them.

"He is as good as anybody we've seen this year," Moellering said.

Going for Berkeley was their own fireballing ace, Stanford-

bound Moses Kopmar, a 6-3" senior who has had his struggles this year with control and injuries.

Kopmar pitched well, yielding just the four runs on three hits. His undoing was two hit batters, two wild pitches and five walks. Kopmar had his fastball, which tops out at 92 mph, moving well, but was unable to keep the ball down consistently.

Denham is a legitimate major-league prospect. Scouts from several pro teams were on hand, speed guns at the ready, to watch this young phenom. Possessing an overpowering heater that can reach 96 mph, Denham has developed a Jason Isringhausen style 12-to-6 curve that paralyzes batters. And, just to mix it up, he throws the occasional 85 mph slider.

The Yellowjackets knew they had to scratch out some runs against Denham or it would be a long day.

"We had our chances and needed to capitalize — we just didn't do it, Moellering said after the game.

Deer Valley is only four years old, a spinoff of Antioch High created when the population of East Contra Costa County doubled in the last decade. They are blessed with great new facilities, a supportive community—which turned out in force—an outstanding Little League program and a veteran coach, Dennis Luquet.

Luquet, like everyone, is spellbound by Denham, now 7-1 with four shutouts and two no-hitters, and a Pedro Martinez-like 7-to-1 strikeout-to-walk ratio.

"Danny has been offered a free ride to (perennial baseball power) Pepperdine, but he's probably going to go in the top 12 of the draft (June 5) so I expect him to sign with somebody," said Luquet.

The rest of his Wolverine squad is not too shabby either. With a 19-6 record overall (12-2 in league), they came into North Coast as the first seed, having finished atop the highly competitive Bay Valley Athletic League, their only losses coming to 2000 NCS champion DeLaSalle and Clayton Valley.

The game started out with

See BASEBALL, Page C2

Panthers track down titles

Johnson sets record, leads St. Mary's girls to 2nd-place finish

By Phil Jensen
STAFF WRITER

PLEASANT HILL — The injury still bothered St. Mary's High School's Tiffany Johnson.

Johnson missed the Bay Shore Athletic League meet earlier this month due to an injury to an IT band, which runs from her lower back down her right leg. After gaining a hardship entrance into the North Coast Section Bay Shore Championship meet Saturday, the junior com-

peted sparingly.

But the results were sparkling, to say the least. Johnson took only two attempts in the triple jump, but set an NCS Bay Shore championship record with a mark of 38 feet, 11 inches. In the 100 meters, Johnson had the top time with an impressive clocking of 11.88 seconds, narrowly edging James Logan's Cheri Craddock by .01 seconds in their heat.

"It still hurts. I'm just stretching and icing," said Johnson

Prep track and field

Bay Shore Championships

ST. MARY'S boys won, the school's girls were second.

about her injury. "In the 100, I knew I had to get out hard and maintain."

Icing didn't sound like a bad idea to any of the participants Saturday. Under a brutal sun, the athletes competed in the NCS's version of Survivor.

The top seven marks in each event qualified for next week's tribal council, also known as the NCS Meet of Champions. The meet is next Friday and Saturday at Cal's Edwards Stadium.

St. Mary's won its fourth straight boys team title with 135.3 points. James Logan was second with 121.7 points.

At the top of the girls' standings, the team results were reversed from the boys' finish. Lo-

See TRACK, Page C2

Berkeley duo pools talent

Cathey, Fatherree lift Berkeley to 2nd place at NCS

By Mike McGreehan
STAFF WRITER

MORAGA — Consistency has come to characterize the North Coast Section swimming championships. And this year's meet, held last Friday and Saturday at Campolindo High School's Soda Aquatic Center, did not break the pattern.

Four swimmers won two events each and the meet once

Prep swimming

NCS

Berkeley tied for 25th overall at the annual North Coast Section swimming and diving championships.

again showcased some of the top young swimming talent in the nation. As always, swimmers and teams from Central Contra Costa dominated. But teams from this side of the hills were not completely shut out of the show.

See SWIMMERS, Page C2



THE BERKELEY HIGH SCHOOL Mountain Bike Team was at the starting line of the Boggis Mountain Race in Sonoma County on April 29. On May 26, the team will be joined by more than two dozen high schools at the Northern California High School Mountain Bike Racing Championships at Eagle Mountain Resort near Lake Tahoe.

Cyclists heading to mountain

State-wide prep championships to be held May 26 near Lake Tahoe

STAFF REPORTS

Mountain bike racing will take a leap as an established sport this weekend as 100 racers from 30 high schools vie for the gold at the first Northern California High School Mountain Bike Racing Championships at Eagle Resort near Lake Tahoe.

For three years the Berkeley High Mountain Bike Team has dominated the high school racing scene. But that was easy — Berkeley had California's only high school mountain bike team.

This year, spurred by student enthusiasm for the sport and the success of the Yellowjackets team, coach (and algebra teacher) Matt Fritzing formed the nation's first high school mountain bike league. Response to the league's internet-based recruitment efforts has been resounding, to the point that Berkeley finds itself training hard in an effort to maintain its lead.

To date, students from 30

schools have signed up, ranging from San Francisco's Lick-Wilmerding to Sebastopol's Analh High. Student riders have been competing in this spring's NorCal High School Mountain Bike Racing Series, comprising six races between February and May. The League's website can be found at norcalhighracing.org.

Mountain biking is a sport invented about 15 years ago in Marin County. Berkeley has one of the nation's first mountain biking teams, formed in 1998 by four students who recruited Fritzing to help them train. This year the team has 14 members and an assistant coach.

As other schools organized their teams, it became clear Berkeley could be — Salinas defeated Berkeley in 3 out of 5 of the series races, due in large part to the efforts of Michele Boillard, who has clinched first place in the Women's Expert category.

But Berkeley is leading in the overall standings, due perhaps to the points earned early in the series, before many schools had a chance to organize.

"We're confident we'll win the series trophy," said Fritzing. "But it's hard to tell who will win

See BIKES, Page C2

Bikes

FROM PAGE C1

the final round and take home the state championship."

On an individual basis, the battles for some of the top places are close. Berkeley's Theo St. Pierre may have the 16-Under Beginner/Sport Class wrapped up. But racers are well aware of the unpredictable factors in mountain biking — flat tires, mechanical mishaps and crashes. Second, third and fourth places are all close with Michael Rochlin (Casa Grande High), Rand Miller

(Pleasant Valley High) and Paul Thoman (Mendocino High) all contending for the podium.

In the end, Fritzer stresses that the overall winner will be the future of cycling.

"Cycling is a safe and viable sport for all types of kids; nobody is sitting on the sidelines, and young riders learn healthy habits they will use throughout their lives," he said. "This is a lifelong sport. Our ultimate goal is to bring cycling into the high schools as an official inter-high school program. When compared to the costs of fields, facilities and equipment required for other sports,

it's surprisingly affordable."

USA Cycling, the national governing body of competitive cycling, has also made it a goal to bring the competition into the high schools. Organization leaders say they are ready to support high school programs with training for coaches, insurance programs and a national ranking system. The first high school mountain bike nationals will be held in 2002.

Caption for attached photo: Berkeley High School Mountain Bike Team members at the starting line of the Boggs Mountain Race in Sonoma County on April 29.

Track

FROM PAGE C1

gan won the team title with 124½ points and St. Mary's was second with 109 points.

Haili Guy paced the Panthers with the top marks in the 100 high hurdles (14.66) and 300 hurdles (38.22). He also anchored the 400 and 1,600 relays to top times with clockings of 41.79 and 3:20.01, respectively.

Teammate Courtney Brown nearly matched Guy's four top marks. He ran the second leg in the Panthers' 400 relay, produced the top mark in the 200 (22.07) and ran the second leg on St. Mary's 1,600 relay.

"I like just blasting from the start and have (the field) try to catch me, instead of my catching them," said Brown about his strategy in the 200, in which he

has competed only a handful of times this season.

The Panthers also produced major points from the horizontal jumps. St. Mary's finished 1-3-4 in the triple jump, with Solomon Welch leading the way (46-6). In the triple jump, Asokah Muhammad (22-5½) led a 1-3-5 finish for St. Mary's. Welch also produced an outstanding time in the 100 hurdles (14.93).

In the girls' meet, El Cerrito's Ashley Lodree blew away the field in long jump, as she won the competition by nearly 1½ feet with a mark of 18-7½. She also recorded the top mark in the 100 hurdles (14.42) and placed second in her heat of the 300 low hurdles (47.22).

"It's like 100 pounds off me," Lodree said about the relief from pressure she felt after the meet.

St. Mary's Bridget Duffy completed probably the toughest dou-

ble in Saturday's heat. The junior won the 1,600 and 3,200 with times of 5 minutes, 7.46 seconds and 11:38.13 respectively. She was unchallenged on the final lap of both races.

"I just try to keep as cool as I can before races, and I poured a ton of water on myself before the race," she said. "I just try to beat (the heat) mentally. That's what you've got to do."

Other local girls with top marks included St. Mary's Danielle Stokes in the 300 hurdles (45.29) and St. Mary's Riana Shaw in the high jump (5-4).

West County's top finish might have been in the girls 400, as locals claimed the second through fifth spots. Berkeley's Raqueta Margain was second in 58.23, followed by teammate T-Carra Penick (58.91), St. Mary's Shameka Savage (58.96) and De Anza's Alicia Williams (59.76).

Swimmers

FROM PAGE C1

Berkeley High School's boys, for instance, earned 20 points in Saturday's finals to finish in a tie for 25th place.

Dominic Cathey had the best finish of any Yellowjackets swimmer by placing second in the consolation final of the 100-yard butterfly in 53:30 seconds.

Teammate Joel Fatherree was fourth in the consolation 200 individual medley.

Berkeley also finished seventh in a pair of consolation relays. Fatherree, Ariel Nikzad, Cathey and Raymond Chetty completed the 200 medley relay in 1:44.43. Fatherree, Chetty, Cathey and Nikzad finished the meet by going 3:22.90 in the 400 freestyle relay.

Year after year, the NCS produces the finest high school swimming meet — and arguably the finest high school sporting event — in the nation. Last year's meet saw national prep records set. A number of swimmers went on to the Olympic Trials, too. Among them were Campolindo's Kim Vandenberg, Clayton Valley's Laura Davis and Las Lomas'

John Dorr.

This year, all three swimmers won two events. Miramonte's Amy Thurman also won twice, taking first place in both the 50 and 100 freestyle.

Vandenberg, a junior, once owned those races. As a freshman and sophomore, Vandenberg was the queen of the NCS sprints, winning the 50 and 100 both years. She reached a zenith last year by setting a section record in the 50 and a national high school record in the 100.

This year, Vandenberg moved up to the 200 and 500 freestyle events without a hitch, winning both by comfortable margins. Vandenberg went 1:48.14 in the 200 and 4:54.05 in the 500.

"My coach wanted me to try something new; I'm just doing whatever he said," said Vandenberg. "I don't usually swim the 500, but I've swum it a few times. I just wanted to keep a pace."

This year's meet was also one of change for Davis, also a junior. Davis set a section record of 1:02.21 in the 100 breaststroke last year. This year, she opted to swim the 100 butterfly. And she was just as dominant, winning in 54:50. Davis had earlier won the

200 IM in 1:59.58.

Dorr took first place in the boys 200 IM (1:50.94). He later won the 500 freestyle in 4:27.16 after having set a section record of 4:25.98 in Friday's trials. Dorr's trials time bettered the previous mark of 4:26.13 set by California High's Bruce Vogelsgang in 1998.

Campolindo won the girls team competition with 356 points, far outdistancing second place Miramonte with 197.

Las Lomas took the boys title with 255 points. Campolindo was second with 219.

Post meet:

FEW AND FAR BETWEEN: The Bishop O'Dowd girls were the last team from Alameda County to win an NCS championship. The Dragons took home the top trophy in 1995. Amador Valley-Pleasanton tied for the title with Pleasant Hill High School (now closed) in 1977, the inaugural year for NCS girls swimming. A team from Alameda County has not won a boys championship since Alameda High turned the trick in 1968. The Hornets won the first three championships in tournament history, starting in 1966.

Deer Valley was up 2-0.

But with Denham on the mound, two runs seemed like 10. The 'Jackets were able to mount a two-out rally in the fifth behind singles by right fielder Benny Goldenberg and second baseman Lee Franklin. Miller came up and worked the count full, and Denham uncorked his hardest pitch of the game — a 96 mph blazing fastball right over the plate that froze Miller and snuffed the rally.

That would be the closest Berkeley would come to getting to Denham. In the bottom of the fifth the gutsy Kopmar began to visibly tire, his pitches up and out of the strike zone.

After walking the bases loaded, the Wolverines finally got the hit they'd been waiting for — a two-run single to right by third baseman Erik Kingston, stretching the lead to 4-0.

After striking out Denham, Kopmar went 2-0 to Brent Nissen, and Moellering had seen enough. Knowing that this was a single-elimination tourney, he went to the bullpen for sophomore Sean Souders, a southpaw starter who has had a stellar year for the 'Jackets.

Souders got out of the jam, and shut down Deer Valley in the sixth. Denham closed out the 'Jackets in order in the seventh,

completing his shutout gem and advancing his team to the next round of the NCS.

Postgame:

HERE'S THE PITCH ... Kopmar finished a brilliant career at Berkeley. He spoke afterwards.

"There was less pressure on me today — he's (Denham) expected to be the best. I thought I pitched OK, but I did have control problems. I'm almost all the way back from my (groin) injury, and I'll be pitching this summer for the San Francisco Seals. I'm looking forward to pitching for Stanford."

THE NEXT LEVEL ... The Yellowjackets have had great baseball teams in the past, and Moellering seems patient when talking about what it will take to get them to the next level.

"I learned a lot this season about preparation. We need to find a better practice facility, for sure. Our league (the ACCAL) didn't get much respect this season, which is why we found ourselves seeded 16th rather than higher. All in all, however, it was a fine season, and I'm looking forward to next year — we have several of our players returning and we should have a good year."

Albany-Berkeley girls softball league results

Younger Division

Davitt Felder Stamps Royals 9, Dr. Brenner's Smilemakers 6

The afternoon sizzled as did both the Smilemakers and the Royals.

Isabel Hubbard's fielding shined in the first two innings for the Smilemakers. Pitcher Taylor Ivanchic assisted on two putouts in the first inning, one to Corey Chin at first base and another to catcher Madeleine Luckel to stop a run. The second inning defense was dominated by Caitlin Taffe, who made two putouts.

Royals pitcher Violetta Alaiyan made two great putouts in the first inning, deftly tagging a batter on her way to first, then later throwing to catcher Rachael Chazin-Gray to stop a run. Notable also was Jasmyne Welch who fielded a grounder for an out at second base. Sarah Burger made two great hits, including a smash over first base for a double. Anya Whitfield smashed a line drive past the pitcher.

Sweet Potatoes 20, Vivian Lopez Mighty Molars 11

Sweet Potato Jimena Zavaleta exploded with hits that drove in two very important runs. Yasmin Louie kept the outfield busy with hard-hit singles and a towering double and Maya Drexler let loose her power hitting, including two smashes to center drive in runs. Defensively, Drexler handled a rocket hit at her at shortstop to throw out a runner. In that same four-up, three-down inning, Megan Tokunaga made unassisted outs on two spectacular plays and also hit a long fly single.

Sparkling defensive stars for the Mighty Molars included Aine Ritchie-Boland — who effortlessly handled three putouts at third base — and Amalia Mourad, who coolly put a runner out at first base in the first inning and threw a runner out at third. Marisa Budlong, Nicole Gomez and Sydney Morrone — the heart of the Mighty Molars' lineup in this game — teamed up for seven hits and six runs between them to lead the offense.

Nelson, Meyer, Kasrovi & Ung, Tigers 16, Red Oak Realty

Retrievers 16

In a game dominated by slam singles and clean putouts, the Tigers and the Retrievers were morning and neck throughout the morning. A string of final-inning smash outfield singles by Retrievers Lisa Gilliland, Sarah Herman, Eliza Stuber and Katie Tick pushed the score to a tie.

For the Tigers, pitcher Hillary Calef tossed to Christie Manning at first for a quick putout. Shortstop Katya Schoenberg threw to Sonya Javits for a second out and, on the very next play, third baseman Hannah Guletz scooped a grounder and ran to the bag for the inning's third out. Maria Price-Hanson and Zoe Pollock hit singles in each inning, bringing in runs to even the score.

On the Beam Wildcats 17, Jesse Young Construction Scorpions 17

In the bottom of the first, Wildcat Haley Joy Kleine got an out at second base. In the second inning, Haley Dixon hit a two-run single, scoring both Jordan Gardner and Michelle Rempel. Liana Egan hit a fierce double, and proved her fielding skills with two outs in the next inning.

The Scorpions batting order was in great form throughout the first inning with strong singles by Rosy Warren, Tahirah Dunlap, Fiona Riley, Zoe Pollack, Sasha Ginzberg, Rachel Jackson, Valerie Dohrer, Ellie Arkin and Hannah Long.

Middle Division

Clara Beau Jewelers Diamondbacks 6, Strategic Economics Panthers 3

The Diamondbacks broke open a tight pitchers' duel and overcame a one-run deficit with four runs in their last at-bat.

The Panthers started quickly, clawing out two runs in the top of the first as Kaitlyn Giblin delivered a clutch two-out single, scoring Liza Veale and Leah Belzer-Adams. In third, the Panthers scored when Veale and Belzer-Adams delivered timely hits.

In the bottom of the second, the Diamondbacks cut the lead

while facing hard-throwing pitcher Sarah Neuhas. Neuhas, for the Snakes, singling in Adam Gebhardt to make the score 2-1.

The final frame saw Sophia Kline, who shined on defense all day, tie up the game for the Diamondbacks with a run-scoring single before Katie McDonald drove in the go-ahead run.

Older Division

Jane Hammond Events Devils Eggs 14, Sensational Lasers 7

The Lasers hosted the Devils Eggs for a cookin' game at Fielding Field.

Exciting elements in the first inning included a spectacular run homer by the Egg's Jennifer White. Laser highlights included stellar doubles by Casey Osborn and Ruby Shapiro, and a stunning defensive play by Judith —

Joy fielded a powerfully batted ball to right field and fired to Rachel Kahan at first base for an out. In the second inning, Devils Egg pitcher Emma Riley retired batters one, two, and three. In the third, Laser pitcher Daniela Kronenberg struck out two, as did Devils Egg pitcher Christine Skonberg.

Acrylic Art All Stars 12, Autumn Press Panthers 11

The All Stars and Panthers played a nail-biter on Saturday at San Pablo Park.

The Panthers scored twice before All Stars pitcher Simone Morris-Martin delivered three strikeouts.

The All Stars' sharp fielding spoiled the Panthers hopes in the second. Shortstop Danielle Schur snapped Monika Chan's hard line drive; Alina Schnake-Mahl had a steady glove at first base and Morris-Martin came up with a strikeout to hold Autumn Press to one run. Panthers Lauren Halperin at first base and Lily Stern at pitcher teamed up for two quick outs, but the All Stars staged a six-run rally to close the inning.

In the third, Autumn Press' Jenna Starkey pitched a scoreless inning and Nina Gordon-Kircho scored her second of three runs on the day.

more amateur tournaments before I turn pro, most likely later this summer. I'm looking at the Asian Tour. I'll probably try Q-School just to get my feet wet."

Yi had four straight bogeys at Ruby Hill, on Holes Nos. 9 through 12, while shooting 1-under-par.

"I just hopped on the bogey train and couldn't get off for awhile," he said. The best fix for a bogey train is a mojo ticket.

Ron Salsig can be reached at rsalsig@pacbell.net

Salsig

FROM PAGE C1

the two friends would like to flip for it. But Kriebel would have none of that.

"Give it to Todd," he said. "I'll wait for mine. Don't want to break the mojo."

Peter Tomasulo of the Cal golf team shot a 70, one stroke out of the playoff. Dong Yi of Cal, Garrett Fogel of San Lorenzo, Dan Arroyo (a Cal

alum), and James Hay of Fremont each shot 71.

Yi and Tomasulo had flown in from Corvallis, where they played in the NCAA West Regional Championship. Cal finished in 16th place, failing to gain a berth in the finals. The end of the season for the Cal team meant the end of his college career for Alamedan Yi, who shot a 73 in the final round to tie for 34th place in Oregon, long on the Cal team.

"It concludes a chapter of my life," Yi said. "I'll play in a few

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Arts

'Laramie Project' looks at a traumatized town

By Pat Craig
STAFF WRITER

About the same time that the successful run of Tectonic Theater Project's "Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde" began to wind down, Matthew Shepard, an openly gay student at the University of Wyoming, was murdered.

The only connection between the two events was Tectonic artistic director Moises Kaufman, who saw, as he had in the century-old indecency trial of Wilde, the possibility of a theatrical piece of some kind.

"He met with us, and asked the question, do we, as theater artists, have a role to play in this dialogue?" recalls Tectonic member Leigh Fondakowski, who is staging "The Laramie Project," the result of that question, at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. "You probably remember that after Matthew Shepard's murder it was all over the news, not only the event, but with different groups on both the left and right coming

PREVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "The Laramie Project," by Moises Kaufman and the Tectonic Theater Project

■ **WHERE:** Berkeley Rep, Roda Theatre, 2015 Addison St., Berkeley

■ **WHEN:** Previews tonight and Tuesday, then Tuesdays-Sundays through July 8

■ **HOW MUCH:** \$35.50-\$51

■ **CALL:** 510-647-2949 or www.berkeleyrep.org

out, making statements and ignoring a whole dialogue about homosexuality in our culture."

Tectonic members, who often launch projects by consensus, were not all convinced they belonged in Laramie, half a continent and almost 180 degrees clockwise away from their New York City home turf. Some were afraid they would simply be another annoyance, like the all-pervasive media that invaded the town of



FROM FAR LEFT, John McAdams, Stephen Belber and Andy Paris appear in "The Laramie Project" — a theatrical treatment of the murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay university student in the small Wyoming town.

26,000 after the murder.

"I felt we should go and see what happened," says Fondakowski. "We weren't thinking specifically of going to write a play, but to see what was there;

it was more like an experiment for the company in a totally different form."

Since the beginning, that had

See LARAMIE, Page C8

ARTS BEAT

Chocolate, chalk art fest set for Saturday

ALBANY — The Chocolate and Chalk Art Festival will begin at 9 a.m. Saturday on the sidewalks along Solano Avenue, extending into Berkeley.

Sidewalks will be assigned to participants of all ages to create their chalk paintings. There is no fee, but artists must register for a space beginning at 9 a.m. on festival day at Peralta Park, 1561 Solano Ave., Berkeley.

Artists' chalk and a Polaroid photo of finished work are available for a fee. To encourage early registration, there will be a noon drawing of registered artists' names for merchandise donated

by local businesses.

There will be games, prizes and drawings, and whimsical chocolate items on sale, including chocolate salami, lollipops and flowers.

A dog fashion show will begin at 2 p.m. at Solano Avenue and Key Route Boulevard. Pet owners must pre-register by calling 510-524-9779. Registration is \$2, with proceeds going to Hop-Along Animal Rescue.

The Berkeley Police Department will set up Operation Kid-print at Peralta Plaza. Children's fingerprints will be taken free of charge for parents to keep on file.

For details, call the Solano Avenue Association at 510-527-5358.

S.F. Symphony musicians to play

BERKELEY — Chamber Music Sundaes will present San Francisco Symphony musicians in concert at 3:15 p.m. May 27 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave.

The program, featuring the symphony's new associate principal cellist, Peter Wyrick, will include Schubert's "Arpeggione Sonata," a Hindemith string quartet and a piano quartet by Faure.

Tickets at the door are \$16 general admission, \$13 for seniors and students, and \$7 for those 18 and younger.

For information, call 415-584-

5946.

Berkeley artists show at Chi Gallery

OAKLAND — The Chi Gallery is exhibiting works by Berkeley residents Juana Alicia and Emmanuel C. Montoya, who are husband and wife, as a tribute to their contributions as artists, activists and educators.

The exhibit runs through June 1.

Alicia, a co-founder of the East Bay Center for Urban Arts in Oakland, recently completed a new mural for an international labor solidarity project between unions in the United States and

See ARTS, Page C8

El Cerrito tackles Shakespeare's 'Romeo and Juliet'

"Romeo and Juliet," El Cerrito High School's final mainstage production for the school year, opened Tuesday and runs nightly through Saturday in the campus Little Theatre. It's an opportunity to see this bitter-sweet tragedy of young lovers interpreted by actors near the same age Shakespeare had in mind. They were teen-agers, we sometimes forget, because older actors are so often cast in these plum roles.

Roger Anderson, head of ECHS's drama department, can be counted on to bring a well-directed cast to the play. He has done it before by stretching his theater students with material that — now, folks, don't throw those bricks at — goes beyond conventional high-school theatrical fare.

Last December the young thespians tackled "Rashomon." This sensitive, savage and introspective story of life in feudal Japan by Ryunosuke Akutagawa is no cakewalk. But Anderson's direction of a cast of theatrically savvy young talents brought it off in high style by all accounts.

This group can have fun



JACK TUCKER
Community Theater

with a classic, too. About this time last year it was Moliere's "The Imaginary Invalid." Of course, this being ECHS and Anderson's irrepressible company of young actors, the original title just didn't cut it in this age of obsession with fitness. So, it came out billed as "The Hypochondriac."

"Romeo and Juliet" has been tweaked a tad from the school's usual all-student production. The student leads — Ben McFadden as Romeo and Melissa Orr as Juliet — will be joined by six teachers, one retired.

Look for three current ECHS English teachers: Jeremiah Holland (Prince), Alex Franklin (Montague) and Alexia Esnick (Lady Montague). With them will be retired ECHS English teacher Michelle Mehlhorn (Lady Capulet).

Albany Middle School Spanish teacher Michael DeWall (Friar) and Fairfield High School English teacher Tom Lederer (Capulet).

There are other production changes: Kathleen Glenn's set design puts us in Italy in the 1530s and 1940s. Choreography by ECHS dance teacher Jacqueline Burgess will add new visual swirls and color to the performance, especially a number created for the moment when the star-crossed young lovers meet.

Students have been receiving training in speech and voice and combat choreography from instructors from the American Conservatory Theater (ACT).

"Romeo and Juliet" plays at 8 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Tickets are \$8. Call 510-524-7351.

DOUBLE-BARRELED SHOTGUN: Most theater companies are satisfied to come up with just one "first" in a season or, at most, once in every three or four plays. Not the ever-edge-probing Shotgun Players. This group is shooting for two on one bill — a sort of double-barreled shotgun.

For the first time in the group's provocative 10-year history, Shotgun on Friday will "present" rather than "produce" a play. That's "First" No. 1.

The East Bay Company is presenting the West Coast premiere of "A New Brain" in conjunction with BareStage Productions, a group identified with UC Berkeley.

Although "Brain" has been done hereabout twice before — briefly on the Berkeley campus and as a staged reading in San Francisco — Shotgun Players was awarded the right to bill the production as the "West Coast premiere" by Samuel French, Inc.

As for "First" No. 2, this is Shotgun's first musical.

"A New Brain" originally was produced in 1998 at Lincoln Center in New York City. It was written by James Lapine and lyrics by Finn, with music and lyrics by Finn and vocal arrangements by Jason Roberts Brown. If the writing combo sounds familiar — bingo! They are the 1992 Tony award-winning authors of "Falsettos" for best book and musical score.

See TUCKER, Page C8

'Pearl Harbor' will live in infamy

■ A trite wartime love triangle and an utter lack of subtlety make for a fatiguing three hours

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

"Pearl Harbor" is like a meatloaf sandwich on Wonder Bread, two slices of insubstantial, schlocky, tedious movie cradling a thick wedge of hearty, all-American action.

The first piece of Wonder is an exceptionally thick one, 90 minutes of establishing material, during which the surprisingly boring love-triangle story between Ben Affleck, Kate Beckinsale, Josh Hartnett unfolds and you find yourself in the unexpected position of praying for the actual attack on Pearl Harbor to begin. It's followed by the meat, about 40 minutes of stunning special effects, well-ex-

REVIEW

■ **WHAT:** "Pearl Harbor"

■ **STARRING:** Ben Affleck, Kate Beckinsale, Josh Hartnett, Alec Baldwin

■ **RATING:** PG-13 (Intense war sequences, images of wounded, brief sensuality and some language)

■ **RUNNING TIME:** 3 hours, 3 minutes

■ **WHERE:** Opens today at area theaters

■ **GRADE:** C+

cutted and convincing enough to nearly woo us back.

Emphasis on the nearly. While most directors might consider the attack sequence sufficiently dramatic to wrap things up, Michael Bay feels the need to fulfill the revenge quotient of his dramatic arc, sending his heroes off on a retaliation mission. This third act,

while not nearly as interminable as the movie's beginning, nonetheless diminishes the impact of Bay's achievement in recreating the Japanese attack.

You might ask, what did you expect? Bay, who previously directed "Armageddon" and "The Rock," has hardly established himself as a master of subtlety. But anyone who saw that first magnificent trailer for "Pearl Harbor," with its mood of anticipation and doom, could easily have been led astray. It had that "Titanic" look. The stuff is all in there, but its magic has been stifled by all the padding around it. If the D-Day sequence was the only good thing about "Saving Private Ryan," would you still see it? If so, "Pearl Harbor" is for you.

Affleck plays Rafe, the son of a Tennessee crop duster. He and his best friend Danny (Hartnett) learned to fly together as children, which we learn about in a

sentimental Norman Rockwell-esque prologue set in 1923. Rafe can't read very well (later we're beaten over the head with his undiagnosed dyslexia) and Danny is timid because he gets knocked around by his dad.

By 1940, Rafe and Danny are both Army Air Corps pilots, but with America staying out of the European war, there's little for them to do but play games of chicken in expensive war planes. These scenes are pure "Top Gun" in vintage outfits. "Do you believe a \$45,000 aircraft is there for your amusement?" bellows their commanding officer, real-life military hero James H. Doolittle (Alec Baldwin). There's even a Goose (spelled Goos) in this story. No kidding.

Rafe meets a military nurse, Evelyn (Beckinsale), whose hair cascades in unsanitary waves down her crisp white uniform

See PEARL, Page C8

EVENTS

Paramount Theatre Movie Classics Series — through June 15 The evening includes a classic movie, walk-in music by Jim Riggs on the Wurliizer organ, a newsreel, cartoon, movie previews and the Paramount's prize give-away game "Dec-O-Win." May 25, 8 p.m.: "My Man Godfrey." (1936). A screwball comedy about a seemingly vagrant William Powell, hired to be the family butler by scatterbrained Manhattan socialite Carole Lombard. \$5, 2025 Broadway, Oakland. (510) 465-6400 or (925) 762-2277

Cody's Bookstores — Nathaniel Philbrick, May 25. The author talks about "In the Heart of the Sea," about one of the most notorious maritime disasters of the 19th century. The crew of the Essex whaling ship wound up stranded in the South Pacific and resorted to cannibalism for survival. David Harris, May 29. The author discusses "Shooting the Moon The True Story of an American Manhunt Unlike Any Other. Ever," about the effort to bring Panamanian General Manuel Noriega to justice.

Bill Russell, May 30. The basketball great signs copies of his book "Russell Rules: 11 Lessons on Leadership From the 20th Century's Greatest Winner." Michael Pollan, May 31. The author talks about "The Botany of Desire: A Plant's-Eye View of the World."

Free. Readings at 7:30 p.m. at 2454 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley, unless noted otherwise. (510) 845-7852.

Oakland Public Library — ASIAN BRANCH — "Jie: Traditional Chinese Festivals." May 26, 11 a.m. Robert Chin will discuss the history and customs of traditional Chinese celebrations.

388 9th St., Ste. 190. (510) 238-3400.

EASTMONT BRANCH — "African American Genealogy Class." May 26, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Local genealogist Peggy Woodruff will teach this free workshop. Registration required. (510) 615-5974

7200 Bancroft Ave. (510) 615-5726.

PIEDMONT BRANCH — "Weekend Adventures in Northern California." June 2, 11 a.m. Author Carole Terwilliger Meyers presents a slideshow about the vacation riches of the region. A book signing follows.

160 41st St. (510) 597-5011.

TEMECAL BRANCH — "Temescal Spring Home Workshops: Building a Chicken Coop, a Dog House and a Bunk Bed." May 26, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Adam Broner will teach techniques for building these structures.

5205 Telegraph Ave. (510) 597-5049

Free. Oakland. (510) 238-3134 or www.oaklandlibrary.org

Visions in Light And Sound: Oakland Asian American Film And Video Showcase — May 25 and May 26. This inaugural event will exhibit the best in recent works by and about Asian Americans, including documentaries, experimental and animated films and videos and highlights from the San Francisco International Asian American Film Festival.

\$8 to 10 general; \$6 to \$8 seniors and students; free some showings. Oakland Asian Cultural Center, 388 Ninth St., Suite 390, Oakland. (510) 208-6080. www.OaklandAsianCulturalCenter.com or www.naatanet.org

Himalayan Fair — May 26 and May 27. The Bay area's celebration of Himalayan mountain cultures includes authentic arts and crafts, music and dance, exotic food and other entertainment. Featured are Odissi dances, Kathak dances of northern Indian and Tibetan dancing.

\$5 donation. Saturday, 10 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Live Oak Park, 1300 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 869-3995 or www.himalayanfair.net

"Carjame" — Oakland Carnival — May 28, 6 a.m. A day of bachanalian dancing and more. Enthusiasts can paint their faces, knock pots and pans together and drum in the park from 6 a.m. to 8 a.m. The Carnival Street Parade begins at noon at Mosswood Park, followed by a carnival show with live entertainment, multi-ethnic foods and arts and crafts.

Free. Mosswood Park, 3612 Webster St., Oakland. (800) 277-8195.

A.C.C.I. Gallery — "The Landscape Show," through June 23. An exhibition of works by California artists representing the natural and organic environment.

Free. Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. (510) 843-2527 or www.acci.citysearch.com

Addison Street Window Gallery — "America the Beautiful," through June 9. An exhibition of works by

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BILL MANN
Multimedia Notes

Hype doesn't make a good film

Anyone hear there's a new movie coming out about Pearl Harbor this weekend?

Just joking.

Better question: Has anyone possibly NOT heard it?

Now, I realize that Disney is fiendishly good at hyping its films, but this time it's gotten ridiculous. This has been going on for weeks. No, I haven't

seen Pearl Harbor action figures at McDonald's yet, but they're probably coming. Not only has Disney's owned network, ABC — and KGO-TV — been flooding the movie incessantly the past few weeks (it opens today, in the off chance you hadn't heard), there's also a tie-in Sunday from an unexpected quarter — an anchor/literateur Tom Brokaw, of "Greatest Generation" fame is hosting a new "National Geographic" special on Pearl Harbor Sunday night on NBC.

Nice tie-in, Disney. Good work, Mickey Eisner. Shame on you, NBC.

I devoutly hope this movie bombs. Sight unseen, it probably will. But not at the box office, of course.

Why? Because how good can ANY movie produced by Schlockmeister/hack Jerry Bruckheimer be? The resounding answer is: Not very. This is the same creative genius who made exploitive, violent crap like "Con Air," "Armageddon," and "Gone in 60 Seconds."

Same know — he makes the same movies whose explosions screw up the quiet, thoughtful film you're trying to watch next door in your local multiplex. I caught about two minutes of "Con Air" a few months ago when it was on broadcast TV. Quelle garbage.

I also resent crassly using Pearl Harbor survivors to promote a Hollywood blockbuster movie.

It's not because I don't care about Pearl Harbor and its legacy. Just the opposite. It's precisely because I do care so much about Dec. 7, 1941, that this whole Disney fiesta o' hype turns my stomach. I'm obviously not a Pearl Harbor survivor.

But I grew up there. And I attended school at Pearl Harbor. The place is still a shrine to me.

My father, a military officer, was stationed at Pearl Harbor. I remember seeing the U.S.S. Arizona before the memorial was built. One day soon after we were stationed in Hawaii, my father took us out to Ford's Island, where the big ship was moored when it exploded. I remember to this day sitting on the bank of Ford's Island, not 50 feet away from the battleship's two big rusting stacks, visualizing what it must have been like the morning of Dec. 7, 1941. There wasn't a soul around. It was eerie and profoundly moving.

I also remember seeing the bullet holes from strafing Japanese dive bombers on the concrete nearby. And noticing that the shoreline was still black all those years later from the Arizona's burning fuel oil on Dec. 7.

But mostly, I remember how could feel the presence of those 1,200 American sailors who lay entombed just a few feet away from me. It made a huge impression on me. It always will.

Military families do not take war lightly. And their parents never let them forget these Americans who sacrificed their lives in service of their country.

A few weeks later, my father came back from an official aerial picture-taking session above the big sunken battleship. I remember being awed at seeing the outline of the dreadnaught in his photos, amazed at seeing fuel oil still leaking out of the big ship.

I still remember looking over toward Ford's Island as a boy in the school yard every day, imagining anti-aircraft fire and diving Japanese planes. I also remember the bitter anti-war "hatred" — that was the

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FRIDAY MOVIE LISTINGS

Titles and showtimes subject to change.
Call theaters for information.
Compiled by: Hollywood.com

*Wheelchair Accessible

Showtimes for Friday, May 25.

Alameda County

Act I & II

2125 Center Street, Berkeley 843-FILM
 • *Amores Perros* (R) 6:45, 9:50
 • *With a Friend Like Harry* (R) 7:15, 10:00

Albany Twin

1115 Soland Avenue, Albany 843-FILM
 • *The Golden Bowl* (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
 • *The Man Who Cried* (R) 1:30, 4:00, 6:30, 8:45
 7:30, 9:15

California Theatres

2113 Kinsbridge Street, Berkeley 843-FILM
 • *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (PG-13) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:35
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 12:15, 1:45, 3:45, 5:30, 7:30, 9:15

Century 16 Bayfair Mall

350 Bayfair Mall, San Leandro 841-0123
 • *Along Came a Spider* (R) 11:50 a.m., 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 9:50
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:45 a.m., 12:30, 2:25, 3:00, 4:55, 5:40, 7:20, 8:05, 9:40, 10:25
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 7:05, 9:20
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 11:35 a.m., 12:35, 2:40, 3:45, 7:05, 7:40, 8:45, 10:30
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 1:15 a.m., 12:15, 1:00, 2:05, 4:05, 4:50, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 8:45, 9:55
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:25 a.m., 11:55 a.m., 12:25, 12:55, 1:40, 2:15, 2:45, 3:15, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:15, 6:45, 7:15, 7:45, 8:25, 8:55, 9:25, 9:50, 10:35
 • *Spy Kids* (PG) 12:00, 2:10, 4:40

Century 25 Union City Union Landing

32100 Union Landing Road, Union City 487-5593
 • *Along Came a Spider* (R) 11:35 a.m., 1:50, 4:10, 6:50, 9:15, 11:30
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:20 a.m., 11:50 a.m., 12:30, 1:35, 2:35, 3:00, 4:15, 5:05, 5:30, 6:40, 7:35, 8:05, 9:10, 10:00, 10:30, 11:40
 • *Blow* (R) 12:10, 12:45, 5:25, 7:55, 10:35
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 11:45 a.m., 1:55, 4:05, 6:55, 9:30, 11:35
 • *The Debut* (NR) 11:10 a.m., 1:25, 3:35, 6:15, 8:15, 10:40
 • *Driven* (PG-13) 12:05, 2:25, 5:00, 7:45, 10:10
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 11:30 a.m., 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:30, 7:15, 8:45, 10:20, 11:55
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 11:40 a.m., 12:15, 12:55, 1:40, 2:00, 2:30, 3:15, 3:55, 4:45, 5:10, 5:40, 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 8:10, 8:40, 9:20, 9:50, 10:25, 11:00, 11:25
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., noon, 12:45, 1:30, 2:00, 3:05, 3:50, 4:35, 5:20, 6:00, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 9:55, 10:45
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:00 a.m., 11:25 a.m., 11:55 a.m., 12:25, 12:50, 1:20, 1:45, 2:15, 2:40, 3:10, 3:30, 4:00, 4:25, 4:50, 5:15, 5:45, 6:15, 6:45, 7:05, 7:30, 8:00, 8:35, 9:00, 9:25, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15, 11:45

Chabot Cinema

2853 Castro Valley Blvd., Castro Valley 582-2555
 • *Shrek* (PG) noon, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:15

Chabot Space & Science Center Tien Meade

10300 Skyway Blvd., Oakland 338-7300
 • *The Mysterians of Egypt* (NR) 11:30 a.m., 3:30, 5:30
 • *Solar Max* (NR) 3:30, 5:30
 • *To Be an Astronaut* (NR) 10:30 a.m., 1:00

Elmwood

2901 Bridge Avenue, Berkeley 549-0530
 • *Before Night Falls* (R) 7:30
 • *Best in Show* (PG-13) 5:30, 9:30
 • *Chocolat* (PG-13) 4:30, 9:30
 • *The Die* (PG-13) 4:30, 9:30
 • *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (PG-13) 7:30
 • *You Can Count on Me* (R) 7:05

Fine Arts Cinema - Berkeley

2451 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 848-1143
 • *City Lights* (1931) (NR) 7:30
 • *La Chienne* (1931) (NR) 9:15

Grand Lake Theater

3200 Grand Avenue, Oakland 452-3555
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 12:15, 3:15, 6:30, 9:15
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 9:45
 • *Shrek* (PG) noon, 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:15, 10:15

Jack London Cinema

100 Washington Street, Oakland 433-1320
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:20 a.m., 2:00, 4:35, 7:30, 10:05
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:50, 4:45, 7:40, 10:40
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., noon, 1:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:45
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:25 a.m., 12:10, 12:50, 1:45, 2:30, 3:10, 4:10, 4:50, 5:30, 6:30, 7:10, 7:50, 8:50, 9:30, 10:10

Mann Festival 9 Cinemas Hayward

19301 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 785-8000
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:30 a.m., noon, 2:00, 2:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:30, 9:40, 10:10
 • *Blow* (R) 7:15, 10:00
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 11:45 a.m., 2:35, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10
 • *The Brothers* (R) 7:20, 10:05
 • *Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles* (PG) 12:20, 2:40, 4:50
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:30 a.m., 11:50 a.m., 12:30, 1:45, 2:10, 2:45, 4:10, 4:40, 5:20, 6:30, 7:00, 7:40, 8:45, 9:30, 9:50
 • *Spy Kids* (PG) 12:10, 2:15, 4:20

NAZ 8

39400 Argosway Way, Fremont 797-2000
 • *Alaska* (NR) 5:00, 8:00
 • *Ex Rihata* (NR) 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:00
 • *Jodi No. 1* 5:00
 • *Kannada Movie* (NR) 9:00
 • *Mujhe Kuch Kehna Hai* (NR) 5:00, 7:00, 9:00, 11:00
 • *Tamil Movie* (NR) 9:00

Oaks Theater

1875 Solano Avenue, Berkeley 526-1836
 • *Blow* (R) 10:00
 • *Pollack* (R) 7:45
 • *Spike and Mike's Classic Festival of Animation* 20:00 (NR) 7:00, 9:00
 • *Spy Kids* (PG) 6:00

Piedmont Theatre

4186 Piedmont Avenue, Oakland 843-FILM
 • *The Golden Bowl* (R) 2:00, 5:00, 8:00
 • *Himalaya: L'Enfance D'un Chef* (G) 1:50, 4:15, 6:50, 9:15
 • *Memento* (R) 1:40, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30

Shattuck Cinemas

2230 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 843-FILM
 • *The Circle* (NR) 4:25, 9:20
 • *The Claim* (R) 2:10, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00
 • *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (PG-13) 1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10
 • *Himalaya: L'Enfance D'un Chef* (G) 2:05, 6:55
 • *The Lullaby* (PG-13) 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15
 • *Memento* (R) 1:45, 4:20, 6:50, 9:25
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 9:50
 • *Starship* (R) 2:00, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
 • *The Tailor of Panama* (R) 2:15, 4:40, 7:05, 9:35
 • *Under the Sand* (Sous le Sable) (NR) 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7:40, 9:55

UA Berkeley 7

2274 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley 843-1457
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 12:20, 2:55, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:25, 9:50
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) noon, 3:20, 7:05, 8:30

10:10
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 1:00, 2:00, 2:45, 3:30, 4:25, 5:15, 5:55, 7:00, 7:45, 9:30, 10:15
 • *Traffic* (R) 12:40, 4:05, 7:15, 10:20

UA Emerybay 10

6330 Christie Avenue, Emeryville 420-0107
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:30 a.m., 11:45 a.m., 1:45, 2:30, 4:30, 5:15, 7:15, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45, 12:30 a.m.
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 10:45 a.m., 1:00, 1:45, 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 10:00, 10:45, 12:30 a.m.
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., noon, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00, 11:00, midnight
 • *Shrek* (PG) 10:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:45, 2:00, 3:15, 4:30, 5:45, 7:00, 8:15, 9:30, 10:30, midnight

UA Hayward 6

24800 Hesperian Blvd., Hayward 786-3000
 • *Along Came a Spider* (R) 12:05, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
 • *Memento* (R) 11:45 a.m., 2:20, 5:15, 7:50, 10:30
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 11:05 a.m., 1:00, 1:45, 4:00, 4:45, 7:00, 7:45, 10:00, 10:45
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., noon, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00, 11:00

Central Contra Costa

Festival Walnut Creek

1450 North California Blvd., Walnut Creek 938-8546
 • *The Mummy Returns* 12:30, 4:10, 7:10, 10:00
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 11:15 a.m., noon, 3:00, 4:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:45
 • *Shrek* (PG) 11:50 a.m., 12:45, 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 5:15, 7:15, 8:30, 10:15

Orinda Theater

4 Orinda Theater Square, Orinda 254-9060
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 4:45, 7:15, 9:30
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
 • *Shrek* (PG) 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00

Park Theater

3519 Golden Gate Way, Lafayette 283-7597
 • *With a Friend Like Harry* (R) 7:00, 9:30

Rheem All-Stadium 4

350 Park Street, Moraga 988-3411
 • *Crocodile Dundee in Los Angeles* (PG) 3:15, 7:30, 9:30
 • *Memento* (R) 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 4:15, 7:15, 9:45
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 3:00, 7:00, 11:00
 • *Spy Kids* (PG) 5:15

San Francisco

AMC 1000 Van Ness

1000 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 922-44MC
 • *Blow* (R) 1:30, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 11:40 a.m., 2:10, 5:15, 7:50, 10:20
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 10:40 a.m., 12:55, 1:45, 4:10, 4:55, 7:25, 8:05, 10:25, 11:10
 • *Shrek* (PG) 10:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 12:40, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 5:00, 7:00, 7:35, 8:10, 10:05, 10:50, 11:25
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 10:15 a.m., 10:30 a.m., 11:15 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 12:15, 2:15, 2:30, 3:15, 3:30, 4:15, 6:15, 6:30, 7:15, 7:30, 8:15, 10:15, 10:30, 11:15, 11:30, 12:15 a.m.
 • *Shrek* (PG) 10:45 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 12:40, 1:30, 2:30, 3:30, 4:30, 4:55, 5:10, 5:45, 7:05, 7:30, 7:55, 8:25, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30, 11:00, 11:50

AMC Kabuki 8

1881 Post Street, San Francisco 922-44MC
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 2:05, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 1:35, 4:50, 7:35, 10:00
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:25, 10:20
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 10:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:40, 7:00, 7:50, 10:10, 10:55
 • *Shrek* (PG) 12:10, 1:50, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:15, 8:05, 9:40, 10:40
 • *Town and Country* (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50

Bridge

3010 Geary Blvd., San Francisco 352-0810
 • *The Golden Bowl* (R) 1:35, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

Castro Theater

Castro Street & Market Streets, San Francisco 821-6120
 • *The Adventures of Pricilla, Queen of the Desert* (NR) 9:45
 • *La Traviata* (G) 7:00

Clay

2261 Filmore Street, San Francisco 352-0810
 • *With a Friend Like Harry* (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40

Embarcadero

1 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco 352-0810
 • *Amores Perros* (R) 1:30, 5:15, 8:30
 • *The Man Who Cried* (R) 12:40, 2:40, 5:10, 7:35, 10:10
 • *Memento* (R) noon, 1:00, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:30, 9:45, 10:00
 • *Under the Sand* (Sous le Sable) (NR) 12:30, 2:50, 5:20, 7:40, 10:15

Lumiere

1572 California Street, San Francisco 352-0810
 • *The Center of the World* (NR) 12:40, 3:00, 5:15, 7:40, 9:50
 • *Keep the River on Your Right: A Modern Cannibal Tale* (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:25
 • *Starship* (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55

Opera Plaza Cinemas

601 Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco 352-0810
 • *Celle 84* (G) 1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:35
 • *The Circle* (NR) 4:30, 9:50
 • *The Die* (PG-13) 1:30, 7:30
 • *Himalaya: L'Enfance D'un Chef* (G) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 8:40
 • *O Brother, Where Art Thou?* (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:30

Red Vic

1727 Haight Street, San Francisco 668-3994
 • *Gladiator* (R) 7:00, 10:00

Roxie

3117 16th Street, San Francisco 863-1087
 • *Angel's Ladies* (NR) 10:00
 • *Bling Ring* (NR) 2:00
 • *He's a Punk* (NR) 6:00
 • *Porn 101* (NR)
 • *Programme to Prison* (NR) noon
 • *Sex Worker Rights Around the World* (NR) 4:00
 • *Sex Worker Cinema Awards* (NR) 8:00

Sony Metreon

101 4th Street, San Francisco 369-8200
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 12:20, 1:10, 3:10, 3:50, 8:10, 7:20, 9:10, 10:20, 12:10 a.m.
 • *Bridge of Spies* (R) 10:30 a.m., 1:00, 3:30, 6:00, 8:40, 11:10
 • *A Knight's Tale* (PG-13) 11:20 a.m., 2:50, 6:20, 9:40, 10:30
 • *The Mummy Returns* (PG-13) 10:40 a.m., 12:40, 2:10, 4:10, 5:20, 7:30, 8:50, 10:50, 12:30 a.m.
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 10:30 a.m., 11:20 a.m., 12:10, 1:50, 2:40, 3:30, 4:20, 5:10, 6:00, 6:50, 7:40, 8:30, 9:20, 10:10, 11:00, 11:50, 12:40 a.m.
 • *Shrek* (PG) 10:50 a.m., 11:30 a.m., noon, 12:30, 1:30, 2:00, 2:30, 3:00, 4:00, 4:30, 5:00, 5:30, 6:30, 7:10, 7:50, 8:20, 9:00, 9:30, 10:40, 11:30, midnight

Sony Metreon IMAX

101 4th Street, San Francisco 369-8200
 • *All Access: Front Row Backstage Live!* (NR) 10:30 a.m.
 • *Cirque Du Soleil - Journey of Man* (G) noon
 • *Haunted Castle* (NR) 1:20
 • *Pearl Harbor* (PG-13) 3:00, 7:00, 11:15

UA Galaxy

1285 Sutter Street, San Francisco 474-8700
 • *Along Came a Spider* (R) 11:15 a.m., 1:45, 7:30, 10:00
 • *Angel Eyes* (R) 11:30 a.m., 12:30, 2:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:15
 • *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* (PG-13) 11:00 a.m., 1:30, 7:00, 9:45

NOW PLAYING

Below are capsule reviews of movies playing at area theaters. The reviewers are Vera H-C Chan and Mary F. Pols. Times: Robert W. Butler and Desmond Ryan, Knight Ridder Newspapers; Anthony Breznican, Matt Crenson, David Germain, Chris Grygiel, Christy Lemire, Sheila Norman-Culp, Malcolm Ritter, Bob Thomas and Matt Wolf, Associated Press; John Anderson, Bob Heisler and Gene Seymour, Newsday; Stephen Holden, Dave Kehr, Elvis Mitchell and A.O. Scott, New York Times; Jack Mathews, New York Daily News; Bob Strauss and Glenn Whipp, Los Angeles Daily News; Kenneth Turan and Kevin Thomas, Los Angeles Times; Henry Sheehan, Orange County Register; Mark Caro and Robert K. Elder, Chicago Tribune; Gary Dowell, Tom Sime and Chris Vognar, Dallas Morning News; and Desson Howe, Washington Post.

"ALONG CAME A SPIDER" (R): Detective and psychologist Alex Cross (Morgan Freeman) returns in this prequel to "Kiss the Girls" to subvert the grandiose visions of a kidnapper determined to hijack a place in the history books. Freeman elevates what would otherwise be a commonplace thriller, based on the book by James Patterson. As in so many of his films, he invests his role with a hybrid American Zen mastery, delivering lines like koans. Also promising are Michael Winicott as the known kidnapper and Mika Boorem as the young victim; less effective is Monica Potter as a lightweight Secret Service agent. — V. Chan. (R) 1 hour, 24 minutes. C+.

"AMORES PERROS" (A): Any movie that starts, as this shattering eloquent Mexican movie does, with a disclaimer that, despite appearances, no animals were harmed during the production is probably not going to be a breeze to watch. Add to that the fact that one of the three intricately interwoven subplots revolves around dogfighting, and this Oscar-nominated film could end up the most-avoided movie of the spring. But what a shame it would be to miss something this potent because of fear. Richly novelistic, in the tradition of Kieślowski's "Three Colors" trilogy, this is one no true movie buff can miss. — M. Pols. (R) language, violence and sexuality.) 2 hours, 33 minutes. A

"ANGEL EYES": Slightly pretentious but enjoyable romance, with Jennifer Lopez doing a fine job in the role of Sharon, a tough Chicago cop who falls in love with Catch, a rather weird man of mystery (Jim Caviezel). It's been billed as supernatural thriller, but it's not that at all. Both these characters have very real problems. Sharon comes from a family where domestic violence is the norm. Catch suffered terrible losses in a recent automobile accident. He's a bit unbelievable, but watching these two find their way together is much more pleasant than the trailers would lead us to believe. — M. Pols. (R) language, violence and a scene of sexuality.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. B-

"BEFORE NIGHT FALLS": Director Julian Schnabel ("Basquiat") captures the humble and liquid romantic imagination of Reinaldo Arenas, whose life would otherwise seem tragic. Raised in poverty, the gay Cuban



BEN AFFLECK appears in "Pearl Harbor," but the real star will be the film's special effects.

Summer films delve deeper than usual

Starting with 'Pearl Harbor,' there should be at least 10 movies worth the price of admission

By Mary F. Pols
STAFF WRITER

Every year, movie critics complain about the summer movie season. Too loud, too stupid, too immature, too violent, too flashy, too everything. Nothing

but mindless blockbusters and weird offbeat movies that you hope will be good but end up being lousy.

Generally speaking, thoughtful movies aren't supposed to come out in the summertime. Director Don Roos ("The Opposite of Sex") tells a great story about cheerfully telling his "Bounce" stars Ben Affleck and Gwyneth Paltrow that the movie was slated for a summer release and seeing the look of dismay flash over both of

their faces. He didn't know any better at the time, but his co-stars quickly set him straight. Summer is not the time for small movies on deep topics like love and death.

So I'm supposed to be ultra-crabby as summer kicks off in full force this Friday with the release of "Pearl Harbor." But I'm not. I went through the list of summer releases and found 16 I am genuinely excited to see, and plenty of others I'm happy to sit through. Sure,

there's some stuff that sounds intolerable, including Mariah Carey's ode to herself, "All That Glitters," but on the whole, I think this looks like a promising summer.

To narrow it down to 10, I had to toss some tempting stuff off my list, including "Evolution," which looks like goofy fun, and Tim Burton's "The Planet of the Apes," which would have made it on the list if I hadn't cringed at the sight of Helena Bonham Carter in ape

makeup. "The Score" features a lineup of great actors — Marlon Brando, Robert De Niro and Edward Norton — but didn't make the list because with those egos, three has the potential to be a crowd.

There's also great buzz for "Song-Catcher," with Janet McTeer and the alt-country soundtrack of all time (Emmylou Harris and Iris DeMent, who also

See SUMMER, Page C6

Dining & Entertainment

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Saturday starting at 5:30 pm. Brunch is served Saturday & Sunday. Reservations are recommended on Friday and Saturday. Mezza is located at 3407 Lakeshore Avenue in Oakland. Phone (510) 663-25000.



Solange (2nd from left) and Maurice Darwish (2nd from right) Owners, Patrick Robertson (3rd from left) and waitstaff, (l to r) Heidi, Eric and J.P.

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Summer

FROM PAGE C5

has a part in the movie). I'm psyched for the release of "Apocalypse Now Redux," with an hour's worth of new footage, and for the "Swingers" boys, Vince Vaughn and Jon Favreau, to reunite in "Made."

But they can't all be on the list. Here's a list of the Top 10 movies I'm excited to see, in order of their release dates (subject to change according to the studios' every whim), followed by five I'm dreading.

"Pearl Harbor" (Today)

Let's face it, that's a great, spine-tingling trailer. The bird's-eye from the dropping bomb, the women at the clothesline, the way you can practically feel that warm Hawaiian air. "Pearl Harbor" appears to have all the drama and size of "Titanic," a movie I'm not ashamed to admit had me riveted to my seat.

The interesting thing about "Pearl Harbor" is, I don't really care who's in it, I'm not at all excited about Ben Affleck or Josh Hartnett (I'm too old to even look at the latter), both playing dashing young military men, and I'm only mildly intrigued by Kate Beckinsale, that rather tart girl from "Cold Comfort Farm." There's supposed to be a romantic triangle between Kate, playing a nurse, and the boys, but I suspect the trio will take a back seat to director Michael Bay's sense of spectacle.

And that's perfectly all right, because spectacle is just what I'm after. If "Pearl Harbor" gives me even the smallest sense of what it would have been like to be there for one of America's most important historical moments, it'll be worth the \$8.

"Moulin Rouge" (June 1)

A love story set in turn-of-the-



"MOULIN ROUGE" sets turn-of-the-century Paris to music. Nicole Kidman leads the cast.

century Paris, in the nightclub artist Toulouse-Lautrec helped make famous, with sumptuous sets and huge production numbers. Sounds tempting, yes? But this film from Baz Luhrmann, director of "Strictly Ballroom" and "William Shakespeare's Romeo + Juliet," arrives in theaters with serious baggage.

For starters, it was supposed to be released at Christmas, in time to snag Oscar nominations. It was pulled then with the excuse that the music or the special effects weren't ready, but you had to wonder: There was also a question as to whether the studio was willing to admit that this was a musical. Then star Nicole Kidman had that ugly breakup with Tom Cruise, which cast a pall over the publicity tour (she went in her interview with the New York Times).

But still ... the trailer to this one looks wonderfully bizarre,

with Kidman swinging through the air on a trapeze, looking like a great big freakish china doll. She seems cold as ice, but as she proved in "To Die For," she's got the goods. Her co-star Ewan McGregor looks like the kind of wimpy guy Kidman would dismiss out of hand — but he's such an interesting actor, I'll cut him some slack.

So this might be the edgy, weird film of the summer, or it might go the way of "Eyes Wide Shut," intense hype for a masterpiece that ends up being a bore. Either way, this is one I don't want to miss.

"The King Is Alive" (June 8)

I've got my suspicions about the whole Dogma 95 crowd, because it's so often linked to horrific pretentiousness (hello, Lars von Trier). But in these days of flash and little substance, their creed to make movies on digital

video, use as little equipment and as much natural light as possible and to allow actors just a few takes is undeniably brave. Moreover, "The King Is Alive," directed and co-written by Kristian Levring, one of the Dogma gang's four original members, sounds intriguing.

Here's the plot: A group of tourists, including Jennifer Jason Leigh, Janet McTeer and Bruce Davison, get stranded in the African desert after their bus breaks down. They take shelter in a deserted diamond-mining town and wait for rescue. To pass the time, they stage their own version of "King Lear," and as rescue seems less and less imminent, the play begins to seep into their own lives.

Granted, the plot could be a lot of hot air. Most people in similar situations might occupy themselves with tic-tac-toe, not Shakespeare. But word is the act-

ing is incredible, and even ugly old digital video can't ruin the beauty of the Namibian landscape.

"The Anniversary Party" (June 8)

This is a cast to die for: Alan Cumming, Jennifer Jason Leigh, Gwyneth Paltrow, Parker Posey, Jennifer Beals, John C. Reilly, Kevin Kline and his wife, Phoebe Cates, who hasn't acted in years.

The considerably talented Cumming ("Spy Kids," "Broadway's 'Cabaret'") and Leigh co-wrote, co-directed and co-star as a couple celebrating their anniversary by holding a party in their big Hollywood home. Details on the plot beyond that are a little sketchy, but drugs might be involved, and there's supposedly some sort of revelation about friendship.

The movie is shot entirely on digital video, over the course of three weeks, and apparently no one involved made any money out of the deal. With a labor of love like that, this movie could either be tremendous or a total throwaway. And a fleet of actors does not always make a good movie. Remember Wim Wenders' bomb, "The Million Dollar Hotel," loaded with talent like Mel Gibson, Donald Logue, Bud Cort and Jimmy Smits? Even Gibson recommended staying away.

So while "The Anniversary Party" could end up being nothing more than a curiosity, it's got serious potential to lend some intelligence to the summer.

"A.I. Artificial Intelligence" (June 29)

I'm nervous about this one for as many reasons as I'm intrigued by it. It's directed by Steven Spielberg, and as we know, the King of Movies does not step down from his throne to direct that often. Since he also wrote the movie, he's clearly got a lot vested in this one.

The plot is nearly a state secret, except that it's futuristic and it stars Haley Joel Osment ("The Sixth Sense") and the delicious Jude Law as "nonhumans," aka robots, who go on a quest to become human.

I'm not willing to subscribe to the notion that Spielberg is the greatest living director, but he can do some fairly nifty things. Even when he gums something up, it can still be pretty masterful, a prime example being that hideous prologue/epilogue tacked onto the otherwise excellent "Saving Private Ryan." "A.I." with its "I-want-to-be-real" refrain, could tread into treacherously sentimental waters. There's the Stanley Kubrick factor. This is the movie Kubrick was totally hot to make, until he got distracted by "Eyes Wide Shut." Before I saw "Eyes Wide Shut," I would have been excited by a project Kubrick was excited about. Now I'm not so sure. So the jury is out on this one, but my curiosity is definitely piqued.

"Cats & Dogs" (July 4)

They're calling this comedy about cats and dogs at war the new "Babe," which sounds exciting. We all know cats and dogs have been at war forever, but things escalate when wacky scientist Jeff Goldblum (what other kind is there in Hollywood?) discovers a vaccine to eliminate dog allergies in humans.

Real cats and dogs were used, along with animatronic puppets and tons of computer-generated special effects. The animals are voiced by Sean Hayes, Alec Baldwin (must be playing a dog), Susan Sarandon, Jon Lovitz and Tobey Maguire. Larry Guterman ("Antz") co-directs, and some of the special effects, including one entirely animatronic cat, were created in Berkeley by Tippet Studio.

See SUMMER, Page C7

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Summer

FROM PAGE C6

My concern is that the felines will be stereotypical movie cats: devious, cruel and mean. Not to sound too much like a cat lady, but it's just not fair that dogs always get to play the good guys. But seriously, this sounds like great family fun.

"Legally Blonde" (July 13)

This romantic comedy starring Reese Witherspoon is being sold as a close relative of "Election." Since that was one of the most hilarious movies of 1999, I'm automatically in. Witherspoon stars as Elle Woods, an irritating, extremely blonde Beverly Hills sorority queen. When her boyfriend (Matthew Davis) departs for Harvard Law School, Elle pulls a fast one and follows him (no word yet on how she gets around the admissions committee).

There's a murder investigation involved, but I don't imagine first-time Australian director Robert Luketic lets things get too dark; this one has fun froth written all over it. I'm not all that sure of Witherspoon's range, because with the exception of "Fear," I've mostly seen her playing tough little cookies or the blithely sassy girl. However, nobody does either better.

"America's Sweethearts" (July 20)

Would summer be complete without a romantic comedy starring Julia Roberts?

The good news is that there doesn't seem to be a wedding involved and that La Julia will contend with a force that would make most people shake in their boots: Catherine Zeta-Jones. In what seems to be type-casting, the majestic Mrs. Michael Douglas stars as a major movie star with attitude. She's adored by her public but her marriage to movie-star husband and frequent co-star John Cusack is on the rocks.

La Julia plays her assistant and

sister who was, at one point, quite plump, and has recently gone through a transformation that's left her as svelte as ... Julia Roberts. Cusack's and Zeta-Jones' characters have just made a movie together and must pretend to be happy for the press junket, even though they hate each other and Cusack has fallen for Roberts.

I have hopes for "Sweethearts," and not just because I'm a sucker for Roberts. Hollywood insider Billy Crystal co-wrote it, with some help from Nora Ephron, and stars as a publicist frantic to keep the truth from the press. I'm dying to see who wins in the scene-stealing department, the Wicked Witch or the Fairy Princess. And Cusack rarely fails to delight me. But if he, or this movie, turns out to be a dud, I've still got "Serendipity" (Aug. 17) to look forward to, in which Cusack plays a man who's been carrying a torch for Kate Beckinsale for 10 years.

"Hedwig and the Angry Inch" (July 20)

I'm still kicking myself for getting the flu and missing the last screening of this movie at Sundance 2001. Everyone was talking about it, and it was no surprise when director John Cameron Mitchell picked up both the festival's coveted audience award and the directing award. It recently played at the San Francisco International Film Festival, where it again picked up an audience award.

The good news is, "Hedwig" found a distributor (Fine Line) and will soon be making its way to a theater near you. Maybe not near you if you live in, say, the Midwest, where its racy content might be a hard sell. Mitchell, who adapted his original off-Broadway musical, stars as Hedwig, a wannabe German rock star who undergoes a sex-change operation that leaves him not quite a man, nor quite a woman. Hence, the "angry inch."

A la "The Rocky Horror Picture Show," the story is told in music,



"HEDWIG AND THE ANGRY INCH" may be a little racy for some. John Cameron Mitchell directs and stars.

which may or may not go over well with general audiences (we'll see if "Moulin Rouge" spoils or sweetens the well). But either way, the much buzzed-about "Hedwig" is nearly guaranteed a cult following. I can't wait to see what all the fuss is about.

"Ghost World" (Aug. 3)

This one has a lot going for it. Its two young stars, Thora Birch from "American Beauty" and Scarlett Johansson, who starred in the sweet indie "Manny & Lo," are lovely actresses. Steve Buscemi and Brad Renfro co-star. Director Terry Zwigoff, who lives in San Francisco, also directed "Crumb," a huge hit on the documentary circuit. This is his feature film debut.

The story, about a pair of teen girls coping with life after high school, is adapted from Daniel Clowes' graphic novel, which Entertainment Weekly describes as "brilliant." OK, so they're not always right, but nevertheless, this movie sounds like it might have that same dark spark as "Heathers." If so, bring it on.

The Dreaded Five

"What's the Worst That Could Happen?" (June 1): Well, I know the worst thing that could happen to

me the week of June 1: I'll have to see this Danny DeVito/Martin Lawrence comedy. But at least after it opens, the trailers will go away.

"The Fast and the Furious" (June 22): Drag racing. If I saw one happening, I'd turn the corner and get out of the way. Which is exactly how I feel about a movie on the topic.

"crazy/beautiful" (June 29): Isn't it time for Kirsten Dunst to go to college or something? She's talented — we know that from her work in "The Virgin Suicides" — but she's got to stop making stupid teen movies. In this one, she's a wild and crazy girl who falls in love with a Latino classmate. Sounds like "West Side Story" meets "Mad Love."

"Rollerball" (Aug. 17): Why remake a movie nobody cared about the first time around? I'm sure fans of Rebecca Romijn-Stamos will find something to enjoy in this action flick about a futuristic X-game, but there's nothing there for me.

"All That Glitters" (Aug. 31): The vainest woman in the world, Mariah Carey, stars in a movie about what else, a musically gifted girl from the wrong side of the tracks who makes it big in pop. If I time my summer vacation right, I might dodge this bullet.

Calendar

Submissions to the Community Calendar must be received Thursdays one week prior to publication. Listings are on a space-available basis.

Children

Hall of Health, 2230 Shattuck Ave. a health exhibit museum of Children's Hospital Oakland, presents free pup pet shows, 1:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. The Kids on the Block, the award-winning educational puppet troupe, features puppets with such conditions as cerebral palsy, blindness and Down syndrome. The Hall of Health is a hands-on community, health-education museum and science center sponsored by Children's Hospital Oakland and Alta Bates Medical Center. Hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is free. For more information, call 549-9682.

The City of El Cerrito, offers special programs for children from 22 months to five years of age. These programs are designed to offer parents an opportunity to leave their pre-school children in a safe atmosphere under qualified supervision. The program for ages 22 months to 3-1/2 years meets Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon. Registration is continuous as long as space is available. Located at 7077 Mosser Lane. For more information, call Jude, 215-4371.

LGBTQ Parent and Prospective Parent Groups meet the first Saturday of the month 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. with concurrent childcare. All groups meet at the Pacific Center at 2712 Telegraph Ave. in Berkeley. Donations are requested, but not required. For information or to RSVP, contact Anna at familyprogram@yahoo.com or 415-789-8560 classes.

The Ann Martin Children's Center offers eight "Support Groups For Mothers," sessions for first-time mothers and babies their babies under 5 months. Experienced facilitator. For information: 524-0821.

Lawrence Hall of Science, UC Berkeley's public science museum and center for K-12 science and math education offers three residential summer science camps, including two camps held at actual University of California

field research stations, and three Sierra backpacking summer science camps. Each camp emphasizes fun outdoor science explorations through hands-on, inquiry-based activities, as well as lots of traditional camp fun. Each camp has a unique theme, and is designed for a specific age group. Call 642-2275 or e-mail to lthinfo@uclink.berkeley.edu. To register, call 642-5134.

"Theater Rats," Julia Morgan's kid's theater camp program, offers swimming, singing, dancing, acting, and field games as some of its exciting activities. The camp is a two-week session for kids 6-14. Call 883-7023 for additional information.

Health

Charcot Marie Tooth (CMT) support group meets Saturdays bi-monthly at West Berkeley Library, 1125 University Ave. from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. CMT is a neuropathic disorder. Call 524-3506 for additional information.

YWCA Health and Community Education, drop-in classes in dance, fitness yoga, martial arts and more. University YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, 848-6370. \$8 - \$10.

Community

Berkeley Methodist United Church, 1710 Carleton St., holds its 43rd annual bazaar from noon to 4 p.m. Sunday, May 27. The event features crafts, needlework items, homemade baked goods, a tonyaki chicken box lunch, children games and much more. For more information, call 848-4690.

Julia Morgan Center for the Arts, Kaleidoscope Performances presents "The Procession of Sun and Moon" at 2 p.m. Sunday, May 27. Maria Lexa guides the audience through a colorful and magical world of skits, showing masks, giant puppets, actors, clowns and storytelling. Address: 2640 College Ave. Admission: Adults, \$10, children \$5. For more information, call 415-282-4331.

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See CALENDAR, Page C9

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Reviews

FROM PAGE C4

"THE DISH": This lightweight, inoffensive comedy from Australian is one you can take the whole family to. It's 1969 and Neil Armstrong is about to walk on the moon. But NASA needs help transmitting the images, so it turns to a three-man team of scientists running a giant radio telescope in the Australian outback. Naturally, the characters who run the dish, led by Sam Neill, are a bunch of eccentrics, and the townsfolk are zany in that way that only movie magic can create. Wears a bit thin as the limited tension is stretched to make the movie feature length. But the moon walk, and its impact on the world, is inspiring. — M. Pols. (PG-13: brief, strong language.) 1 hour, 44 minutes. **B-**

"DRIVEN": This car racing movie is for the boys. Kip Pardue plays a rookie who's bucking under the pressure until he forms a bond with a washed-up pro, played by Sylvester Stallone. A macho movie through and through, there's a lot of plain talk about being true to oneself. There are some women, but this is a boy's game, and if you're in the mood for that, it fills the bill. — M. Ritter. (PG-13: language and some intense crash sequences.) 1 hour, 49 minutes. **B-**

"THE GOLDEN BOWL": This adaptation of Henry James' most notoriously difficult novel is not awful, but hardly up to producer-director team Ismail Merchant and James Ivory's customary standards. It's 1903. American billionaire Adam Verber and his daughter Maggie live happily in Europe, collecting art, until Maggie meets and marries an impoverished Italian prince (Jeremy Northam). To even the symmetry, Adam marries Charlotte, an equally impoverished school friend of Maggie's, who unbeknownst to Maggie was once the prince's lover. The bad news for all is that she still wants the prince. In a big way. As Charlotte, Uma Thurman poses the film's biggest problem. She flaps around like Big Bird, agitated one minute, preening seductress the next. — M. Pols. (R: for one sex scene.) 2 hours, 7 minutes. **C+**

"HAUNTED CASTLE": This 3D IMAX film promises horror and delivers it in an unintended way. The film, which follows the brief adventure of a budding rock singer, makes the special effects the real star, and some of these are quite good. But a film needs to commit itself to more than merely presenting shiny, rotating, 3D objects for our distraction. Either "Haunted Castle" should have gone straight for the adult jugular and rating, or spent a smidgen more time making the special effects actually do something other than look pretty. — V. Chan. (PG: creepy images.) 40 minutes. **D**

"JOSIE AND THE PUSYCATS": The old Arche-comic-turned TV-cartoon series has been turned into living, breathing stick figures in this high-pitched film. Teen star Rachael Leigh Cook is Josie, Rosano Dawson is Val and Tara Reid is Melody, all of whom discover that their music is being planted with subliminal marketing messages. There's a nice setup here, but the execution is poor, making this "Josie" a bore. — M. Pols. (PG-13: language and sensuality.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. **C-**

"KEEP THE RIVER ON THE RIGHT: A MODERN CANNIBAL TALE": On paper, this fascinating documentary sounds almost too bizarre to be real. A brother/sister team of directors, David and Laurie Gwen Shapiro, tell the story of Tobias Schneebaum, a 78-year-old gay New Yorker who is an artist, an anthropologist, a cruise ship lecturer and a former cannibal. With the filmmakers in tow, Schneebaum revisits first the jungles of Indonesia, where he lived with a tribe of headhunters in the early 1970s, and then the jungles of Peru, where he lived for a year with cannibals. Sounds like "Heart of Darkness" rewritten by Edmund White. But as off-putting as that may be, Schneebaum is immediately captivating, and so is his story. — M. Pols. (R: depiction of mature thematic material.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. **B**

"KINGDOM COME": A divided African-American family comes together to mourn its curmudgeonly patriarch in this over-acted comedy/drama starring an ensem-

ble cast. All sorts of family dysfunction surfaces, and most of it comes out in the form of shouts and tears. Showing much-needed restraint are Vivica A. Fox and Whoopi Goldberg. It's manipulative, but some might find it inspirational as well. — C. Vognar. (PG: language, sexual content, bodily humor.) 1 hour, 35 minutes. **C-**

"A KNIGHT'S TALE": With its combination of pop music, blatant historical inaccuracies and feel-good Rocky-esque underpinnings, this action movie with a medieval setting is supremely, but also joyfully, creative. It's as audacious as its young hero, William Thatcher (Heath Ledger). William is the son of a poor man, so jousting, a nobleman's sport, is off-limits to him, but he wants in anyway. When an accident gives him a chance, he triumphs and begins winning joust after joust. He's accompanied by a merry band of commoners, and eventually, loved by a beautiful noblewoman (Shannyn Sossamon, who can't act, but fulfills her beauty requirements). — M. Pols. (PG-13: Action violence, some nudity and brief sex-related dialogue.) 2 hours, 12 minutes. **B**

"THE LUZHIN DEFENCE": A chess prodigy (John Turturro) competes in a world championship at an Italian lakeside resort and falls for a young Russian woman (Emily Watson). The love story is touchingly and convincingly acted, as Watson's character becomes enamored by the strangeness and intensity of Turturro's character. Based on a Vladimir Nabokov book, "Luzhin" captures the novel's heartfelt romanticism and its dashing intellectual vigor. — A.O. Scott. (PG-13: discreet sex scenes and some moments of intense emotions.) **B**

"MEMENTO": Christopher Nolan's thriller is told backward in roughly 10-minute increments, which has made it buzz central among the spring releases. But even after two viewings, "Memento" comes off more as a clever gag than a piece of wildly innovative filmmaking. It's set up to reward the sharp-eyed viewer: Figure out what's going on and pat yourself on the back for being in the same intellectual stratosphere as the filmmaker. Still, Guy Pearce couldn't be better as Leonard, a former insurance claims investigator who's on a mission to find his wife's killer, but is hampered by having no short-term memory. — M. Pols. (R: violence, drug content and some language.) 1 hour, 53 minutes. **B**

"THE MUMMY RETURNS": Like its 1999 predecessor, this is virtually guaranteed to be a blockbuster, but this is a tiresome movie: confusing, loud, violent and so bloated with special effects that you want to crawl into a dark hole when it finally draws to a close. The action picks up in 1933, about nine years after librarian Evelyn (Rachel Weisz) and explorer Rick (Brendan Fraser) first got together. They're married now and have a son, Alex (Freddie Boath). They'd be living happily ever after if someone hadn't woken up the mummy again, as well as an even more powerful character named the Scorpion King. Many of the special effects look too fake to be believed, and the plot is incomprehensible nonsense. — M. Pols. (PG-13) 2 hours, 1 minute. **C-**

"O BROTHER, WHERE ART THOU?": The most sublimely insane and creative movie to come along for awhile is a strange hybrid of musical comedy, silent movies and "The Wizard of Oz." In the latest from the Coen brothers ("Fargo," "Raising Arizona"), George Clooney, John Turturro and Tim Blake Nelson play a trio of chain-gang escapees making their way around the back roads of Mississippi in the middle of the Depression. Based on "The Odyssey," although beyond the basics the Homeric references are fairly scant. The soundtrack is fantastic, so are the visuals and you'll want to make a return trip to catch all the jokes. And there's nary a wood chipper in sight. — M. Pols. (PG-13: some violence and language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. **A-**

"POLLOCK": You can't beat the acting in director/star Ed Harris' biographical movie about painter Jackson Pollock. As the troubled artist, Harris is brilliant, and so is Marcia Gay Harden as his wife, painter Lee Krasner, who sacrifices her own work to baby-sit the self-destructive genius. The supporting actors, including Amy Madigan as art collector Peggy Guggenheim, are right on. But the movie suffers from the conventions of yé old screwed-up-artist plot. And, although no bio-pic can

cover all the territory in someone's life, there are missing pieces within the version Harris has chosen to tell. In a four-hour version on PBS or HBO, this might have been a much more gloriously rich story. — M. Pols. (R: language and brief sexuality.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. **B-**

"SHREK": An animated visual marvel, with all the beauty and realism of a Chris Van Allsburg children's book. Shrek (voiced by Mike Myers) is an insecure ogre, who makes a deal with evil Lord Farquaad (John Lithgow) to procure him a bride. Accompanied by a hilariously shrieky (Eddie Murphy at his best), Shrek goes to rescue Princess Fiona (Cameron Diaz) from a dragon-guarded tower on high, and unexpectedly finds love. Plenty of bathroom humor (perhaps too much) for the kids, with some clever, more sophisticated stuff for parents. — M. Pols. (PG: mild language and some crude humor.) 1 hour, 27 minutes. **B+**

"SPY KIDS": Robert Rodriguez's action flick for kids has a sly sense of humor, gloriously fantastical sets and, at its core, a goodhearted but never preachy message about the importance of family. Antonio Banderas plays former super-perspy Gregorio Cortez, who retired from secret agentdom when he met and married fellow spy Ingrid (the perky Carla Gugino). Eleven years later, they have two kids, Carmen (Alexa Vega) and Juni (Daryl Sabara), and a lucrative consulting business, but can't resist the urge to save the world. Their latest foe is the evil Fegan Flop (Alan Cumming). When they run into trouble, it's up to their excellent pair of kids to save them. — M. Pols. (PG: action sequences.) 1 hour, 33 minutes. **A-**

"STARTUP.COM": A riveting and tragic tale of two childhood friends who shared a dream of Internet success, saw their star rise and then watched it plummet it even faster. The story has inherent human drama. And in the sure hands of co-director Chris Hegedus and her husband/producer D. A. Pennebaker they've created a poignant, insightful snapshot of our times, a personal look of our times, a personal look at our economy ... and society. — C. Lemire. (R: language.) 1 hour, 43 minutes. **B+**

"THE TAILOR OF PANAMA": Pierce Brosnan and Geoffrey Rush star in this satisfying blend of action, intrigue, snappy dialogue and dark humor, based on one of John Le Carré's espionage stories. Brosnan plays a jaded spy exiled to Panama after flubbing an assignment. He manipulates a British expatriate who runs a tailor shop in Panama City (Rush) into revealing secrets about the Panama Canal. The hitch here is that Rush's stories are just that — overblown stories. Solid acting and shrewd direction and writing make this a must-see. — D. Gernami. (R: strong sexuality, language and some violence.) 1 hour, 49 minutes. **B+**

"WITH A FRIEND LIKE HARRY": Sad sack Michel (Laurent Lucas), saddled with three kids, a grumpy wife and a pair of annoying parents, needs help getting his life together. Along comes Harry (Serg Lopez), an old high school classmate who admires Michel's former self just a little too much — with a peculiar and nefarious way of helping. A wickidly funny dark comedy that owes a lot to Hitchcock, but still manages to be fresh. In French with English subtitles. — M. Pols. (R: language, some violence and a scene of nudity.) 1 hour, 57 minutes. **A-**

"YOU CAN COUNT ON ME": Kenneth Lonergan makes a strong debut as writer/director in this offbeat movie about the bond between brothers and sisters. Sammy (Laura Linney) and Terry (Mark Ruffalo) were orphaned as young kids, and their lives have taken very different paths. Sammy works at the local bank and has never left home (she lives in their parents' house with her 8-year-old son), while Terry is an aimless drifter. The movie looks at what happens when Terry comes home for a visit and the two are reunited. Co-winner of this year's Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, this is a small movie that pokes itself in your brain and refuses to depart. Linney and Ruffalo are both outstanding, and Matthew Broderick shines (as usual) in a small part. — M. Pols. (R: language, some sexuality and drug use.) 1 hour, 32 minutes. **A-**

looking pensive and alluring. The sleepy-eyed Hartnett does nothing to offend or impress. As President Franklin Delano Roosevelt, Jon Voight does a fine-enough job, although one worries that his prosthetic chin is going to fall off at any moment. Cuba Gooding, Jr. has what amounts to an insultingly small part as one of the few based-on-real-life characters, Dorie Miller, the black ship's cook who mans the guns of the USS West Virginia during the Japanese attack.

"Pearl Harbor" is exhausting. There's hardly a scene without excessive musical accompaniment — except, thankfully, during the attack. The cinematography is crisp and lively, although there's an unsettling sense that the entire thing was shot during Magic Hour, as if Bay had ordered up 24 hours of sunsets for his movie. The only images to take away from "Pearl Harbor" are those few quiet moments when we're looking underwater at the kicking legs of dying men and we're able to focus on what was lost during the real Pearl Harbor. The cost of this overblown blockbuster is nothing compared to that.

388 9th St., Oakland. www.naatnet.org
Bade Museum —

"Alive in Her: Icons of the Goddess," through June 19. An exhibit of photography, collage and acrylic painting. Free. Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Pacific School of Religion, 1798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. (510) 848-0528.

Laramie

FROM PAGE C3

been the goal of Tectonic; to find theatrical possibilities in material and situations that may not have been considered previously. So they ended up with a group of 10, heading for Laramie, and taking their cues from the media they had observed.

"We were not aware of doing journalism in any sort of logical way, but one of the first people I called when I arrived was the reporter at the Boomerang, and I sat down with her, so we were more of learning from the journalists," she says.

The group had virtually no experience in how to approach the situation, and quizzed journalists on interviewing techniques and what their boundaries might be when they approached people to talk to.

"We each had our own reasons for going," Fondakowski says. "I was interested in religion and how religion in the town affected the kids. Others wanted to see what it was like to be gay in Laramie, some wanted to look at the perpetrators, some, the university. We didn't have a specific agenda or plan; everyone went

out on their own."

The group arrived about three weeks after the murder, just as many of the original reporters were packing up and leaving. Some of the people the group approached felt they had been invaded and grossly misrepresented in the media onslaught.

"I think people weren't as threatened by us or something, so they sat down with us and said what was on their minds, not only about what happened but on how they had been misrepresented," she says. "They were eager to share with us, and we would sometimes sit down for four hours at a time listening to what they had to say. That's why it evolved more into a story on the culture of the town, before, during and after, and how people changed."

First to change was the group from Tectonic, which discovered that most of the preconceived notions about what Laramie and its people were like were wrong.

"The culture of small towns is that in tragedy, people come together, and that's what happened afterward — on the surface, everyone was coming together and everyone felt really bad about it," Fondakowski says. "It was very complex; yes, they did rise to the occasion, but what

caused it in the first place? It was hard to get underneath and find out what happened and what was going on in the town."

Still, though, after just one visit, the Tectonic crew knew it had a play. That became abundantly clear as they read notes from the interviews during a workshop session. The notes evolved into the first draft of the show, and remain as many of the monologues by townspeople.

Several other visits, through the trial, followed the initial trip to Laramie. And between visits, the group wrote, plotting the show out on long sheets of butcher paper as they tried to intertwine the three basic story elements — the murder, the town and the involvement of the Tectonic group.

"It became clear early on, even though Matthew Shepard's presence is felt all the way through, he wasn't going to be a character in the play," she says. "We weren't going to spend lot of time going into his life and background. But it took some work to figure that out. Then we had to determine how much of the company would be included. We had to be very, careful, because we didn't want to take the focus away from the town and the townspeople."

Tucker

FROM PAGE C3

Yuval Sharon and Brian Rosen, director and musical director, respectively, of the campus production, are putting on the same jaunty hats for the Shotgun/BareStage full-blown production at the Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley.

Tickets are Friday's preview at 8 p.m. for \$10. Tickets for Saturday's opening, with champagne reception, are \$20. The show continues at 8 p.m. Thursdays through Sundays through June 10. Two matinees at 2 p.m. are set for June 2-3. No performance on the evening of June 2.

General admission is \$15 af-

ter the opening. Seniors, students and TBA (Theater Bay Area) members get in for \$10. Matinees are \$10. Call 510-655-0813, or visit www.shotgun-players.org.

"A New Brain" is a neat and nimble choice of a vehicle to take Shotgun Players into the new and — for them — uncharted territory of the musical. The show, like the company's creative philosophy, challenges traditional content and style.

The story: Gordon Schwinn is a frustrated composer who dreams of writing an epic musical opus. Alas, he is forced to pay his bills by writing jingles for a twisted children's television show called "Mr. Bungee's Aquatic Circus."

This crisis of integrity and

autonomy is brought to a sudden climax when he is rushed to the hospital and diagnosed with a brain tumor. Facing death, Schwinn's pent-up self-expression explodes in a cacophony of musical panic and celebration.

A Shotgun Players press release describes the play as a "bold, uplifting piece (that) ultimately urges us all to find joy within a chaotic and often brutal urban world." Can't argue with that.

Send items of interest to Jack Tucker c/o the West County Times, P.O. Box 100, Pinole, CA 94564; fax to 510-262-2776; e-mail to jtucker@cctimes.com, or call 510-262-2768. Include a contact name and number.

Mann

FROM PAGE C3

word always used then — still permeating the base some 15 years later. Some of it was directed at my teacher, who was n't even Japanese (she was Chinese). Dec. 7, 1941, was there every day of my young life.

I vividly recall our family also visiting Punchbowl Military Cemetery, high in the hills above Honolulu, overlooking Pearl Harbor. It's the kind of thing military families do. I remember seeing the grave of perhaps the greatest war correspondent of all, Ernie Pyle, shot by a sniper in the last few days of the war. Pyle was a god to my mother, a fellow Hoosier.

And I'll never forget being taken to the back of the huge military cemetery and seeing several mass graves with inscriptions like, "Here Lie 12 U.S. Navy Heroes, Dec. 7, 1941." You don't forget things like that.

So, even though I was far too young to have fought in World War II, Pearl Harbor was all too real to me. Far too real to sit through a second-rate movie by a third-rate producer that pur-

ports to simulate it.

One last story about Pearl: We also visited a Japanese cemetery in Honolulu with a Nisei family who were family friends. The graves were meticulously cared for. Except for two in the back, that is, resting places my brother and I discovered quite by accident. These two were overgrown with weeds.

They were the graves of two Japanese pilots who participated in the raid on Pearl Harbor and were shot down. We asked our Japanese-American friends why the graves were not tended. We were told: "These men brought shame to our people."

We also visited the big cross at the mountain pass on northern Oahu where the Japanese planes first reached land.

So, I'll never forget Pearl Harbor.

And younger Americans shouldn't, either. But this stupid movie produced by this hack and all the ridiculous hype surrounding it isn't the way to do it. It's all mere window dressing to show off more of Brickheimer's dismal handiwork and his trademark — gunfire and explosions.

Arts

FROM PAGE C3

Mexico. Montoya, a muralist and printmaker, has taught art in the California prison system for nine years.

They have been active in labor issues, with Latin American refugees and immigrant rights — themes that are often reflected in Montoya's work. Their art gives voice to the Latino experience in contemporary American art.

Their murals are on buildings and inside public institutions throughout the Bay Area, including the San Francisco airport's new international terminal.

The gallery, at 912-A Clay St., is two blocks from the 12th Street BART station. Call 510-832-4244.

Himalayan Fair at Live Oak Park

BERKELEY — The 18th annual Himalayan Fair, the Bay Area's celebration of Himalayan mountain cultures, returns to Live Oak Park, 1300 Shattuck Ave., on Memorial Day weekend. Authentic Himalayan arts, antiques and modern crafts, live music and dance and more are offered at this salute to the cultures of Tibet, Nepal, India, Pakistan, Ladakh, Mustang and Bhutan.

The event benefits needy Nepalese, Tibetan, Indian and Pakistani grassroots projects; orphanages, monasteries and small villages are provided with med-

ical equipment, scholarships and other resources. The event is Saturday, May 26, 10 a.m.-7 p.m. and Sunday, May 27, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. A \$5 donation is requested.

Pearl

FROM PAGE C3

while she pokes him in the posterior with a large needle. Evelyn tries to resist Rafe's raffish charm, but, as she later tells her girlfriends — a gaggle of nameless nurses including Smart Nurse With Glasses, Doomed to Die Nurse and Nurse Who Looks Like Rosie O'Donnell — his butt is very cute.

All is bliss until Rafe volunteers to join a British air squadron. Evelyn and the other nurses are re-assigned to Hawaii, and conveniently, so are Danny and his fellow flyboys. This gives Danny the opportunity to break the news to Evelyn when Rafe's plane goes down off the coast of England, and to offer her a strong shoulder to cry on.

After a barely decent interval of weeping in her army-issued cot, tastefully draped with mosquito netting, Evelyn bucks up enough to give Danny the time of day. While the Japanese fleet steams toward Hawaii, they share a lushly lit love scene amongst billowing parachutes and then some Gidget-like days on the beach. Until,

drum roll please, Rafe returns from the dead. The best thing about his return is that it gives us a guessing game to pass the time. Who will ultimately meet an untimely end, Ben or Josh?

Apparently, screenwriter Randall Wallace is oblivious to what constitutes triteness. He packs his script with overdone characters, including absurdly stoic Japanese commanders and the requisite stammering soldier with a heart of gold. Affleck bears the brunt of Wallace's ineptitude, delivering one inadvertently comedic line after another. He murmurs "You're so beautiful it hurts" to Beckinsale on what seemed like three or four occasions but may have just been one. When he's dispatched to England, he arrives at headquarters and immediately asks for a plane to fly, his suitcases still in hand. "Are you that anxious to die?" an English officer asks him. "Not anxious to die sir, anxious to matter," Rafe answers.

There's minimal acting in "Pearl Harbor"; it's more a question of posing. Affleck clamps his considerable jaw shut while Beckinsale walks across tarmacs in slim-fitting period costumes,

Events

FROM PAGE C3

Janet Lee Brown that purports to show the darker side of American life. Artist Reception, June 9, 6 p.m. to

7:30 p.m.
Free. 2018 Addison St., Berkeley.
Asian Pacific Cultural Center —

"The Oakland Asian American Film and Video Showcase," May 25 and May 26. An inaugural event to celebrate the best in recent works by and about Asian Americans. Visit website for unlisted times and prices.

Calendar

FROM PAGE C7

overcrowded, situation desperate. Call Hopalong Animal Rescue today, 530-5154.

Turning Point at the YWCA. 2600 Bancroft Way, sponsors Resume Clinics on Tuesday afternoons, or by appointment. To sign up for an appointment, leave a message several days before you would like to meet. Anne Levine Ph.D. has a background in Design and Education. For the past 10 years, she has assisted in producing numerous resumes as part of her desktop publishing business. Call 848-6370 for additional information.

Marion Rosen, founder of Rosen Method bodywork and movement, presents the Method through lecture, demonstration, and experiential practice. Rosen is joined in the presentation by Sara Webb, Senior Teacher of Rosen Method bodywork. Location: Fadenkraus Resources, 830 Bancroft Way. Admission: \$10. Reservations are strongly recommended. For more information or to make a reservation, contact Abby Paige, at 848-6606.

Berkeley's Office of Emergency Services presents a new series of free Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) classes. The classes give basic, practical information, including hands-on training in fire suppression, light search and rescue, and disaster first aid. All classes are held at the first department's Emergency Operations Center, 997 Cedar St. The classes are open to everyone, 18 or older, who lives or works in Berkeley. To register, or for more information, call the Office of Emergency Services, 644-8736.

Berkeley Art Museum, Pacific Film Archive offers a guided tour of Equal Partner: Men and Women Principals in Contemporary Architectural Practice presented by graduate students from the UC-Berkeley Department of Architecture, College of Environmental Design on Alternating Thursdays at 12:15 p.m. and on Sundays at 2 p.m. For additional information call 642-6908.

Overseers Anonymous meet Fridays at 1:30 PM at the Northbrae Community Church in Berkeley, 941 The Alameda between Solano and Marin avenues, in Room 2—the childcare room—parents may bring their children. This organization is for individuals who eat compulsively? For further

The Fig Tree Gallery, 2599 Eighth St., no. 42, continues its exhibit of oil paintings by Nell Haskell and humorous hand-made posters by Barbara Fracchia through May 27. Gallery hours: Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call Neil, 525-2754, or Barbara, 525-7057.

A New Leaf Gallery, 1286 Gilman St., continues "The Figure Au Plain Air" exhibit through May 27. Exhibit hours: Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit features the art work of Donna Bllick, Curt Brill, Robert Charland, Mark Chatterley, Ed Haddaway, Robert Holmes, Susannah

information, call Katherine at 525-5231.

Toastmasters, do it now. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice Tuesday, noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Civil Rights activists needed. Write the ACLU chapter of Berkeley, Albany, Richmond, and Kensington, P.O. Box 11141, Berkeley, CA, 94701.

"Work Buddies", volunteers needed to perform volunteer work with people in early stage Alzheimer's Disease. Minimum six-month commitment, two to three hours per week. Training provided. Contact Nannette Lipton, 644-8292.

Psychic Healing clinic; 7 to 9 p.m. Mondays; free clinic at the Academy for Psychic Studies in Berkeley, aura cleansing, stress relief; 1-800-642-9355.

SMART project; the Alcohol Research Group in Berkeley is conducting a study to compare the cost and effectiveness of two kinds of substance abuse day treatment: medical model day treatment and social model day treatment. By calling 1-888-249-8802 and agreeing to do three interviews, individuals chosen for the study receive free treatment at existing treatment programs.

The Edible Schoolyard, an organic gardening and cooking program at Berkeley's King Middle School, seeks volunteers to work with students, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 558-1335 for information.

English-In-Action lets you make friends from around the world. Volunteer as a conversation partner with a foreign UC scholar/student for one hour a week. YWCA, at Berkeley, Call 843-9716.

Women's Daytime Drop-in Center in Berkeley; serving women who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless, needs volunteers. The Center is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed for morning and afternoon shifts. For more information, call 466-5863.

Exhibits

The Cecile Mouchnek Gallery, 1809 D Fourth St., continues its exhibition "Poetics of Space," new works by artists Christopher Lane and Seiko Tachibana, through July 8. Both artists have had solo and group shows throughout the US and internationally. Hours: Wednesday through Sunday, noon to 5 p.m. For more information, call 549-1018.

The Fig Tree Gallery, 2599 Eighth St., no. 42, continues its exhibit of oil paintings by Nell Haskell and humorous hand-made posters by Barbara Fracchia through May 27. Gallery hours: Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call Neil, 525-2754, or Barbara, 525-7057.

A New Leaf Gallery, 1286 Gilman St., continues "The Figure Au Plain Air" exhibit through May 27. Exhibit hours: Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday and Sunday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The exhibit features the art work of Donna Bllick, Curt Brill, Robert Charland, Mark Chatterley, Ed Haddaway, Robert Holmes, Susannah

NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE CROSSWORD PUZZLE

SWITCHING SIDES

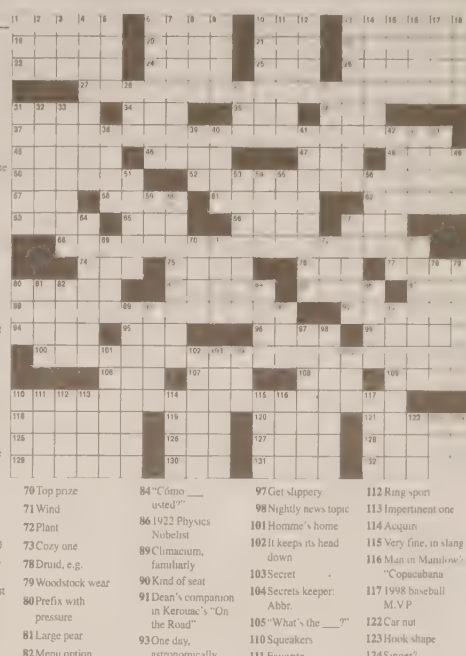
BY ALAN ARBERFELD / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

ACROSS

- 1 Drink with milk
6 Anchor
10 "America Undercover" airer
13 I may put you out
19 Says so
20 "Life" (Beatles song)
21 Item in a lock
22 Get a lungful
23 Paganini's birthplace
24 Capital of Yemen
25 Subject of testing
26 "A Life for the Czar" composer
27 Math tool at a construction site
31 Gillette product
34 Union with 2 1/2 mil. members
35 France's de Noirmoutier
36 "Solo of 'Star Wars'"
37 Government scandal
45 It may be buttonholed
46 Station
47 Grind
48 A bit
50 Best two-pair poker hand
52 Feminist?
57 Abbr. after a colonel's name, maybe

DOWN

- 58 Fountain order
61 Road marker
62 For ___ (cheap)
63 Kingdom whose people descended from 5-Down
65 Go out
66 Major League league: Abbr.
67 Suffix with names of hours
68 Bridal shop?
74 Stab
75 Cezeer
76 Scale part
77 Lamented
80 Obloquy
83 Who's who
85 Medium for a medical sample
87 Title of respect, abroad
88 Diet food involving cooked duck?
92 Raid
94 Inspectors' grp.
95 Musical dir.
96 Suffix, in a way
99 Hiding, with "up"
100 "After you, Father," e.g.
106 Luth. or Episc.
107 Hosp. units
108 "The X-Files" extras
109 Dali output
110 March in Atlantic City?



Israel, Nina Lyons, M.C. Carolyn, Keyia Meadows, Mike Moran, Preston Jackson, Liz Rose, Rita Sargent-Simon, and Peter Schiffrin. For more information, call 525-7621.

The Women's Cancer Resource Center, 3023 Shattuck Ave., presents the quilt tapestries of Cherrynna Gistson through May 28. Hours: Tuesday through Thursday, 1 to 7 p.m., Saturday, 12 to 4 p.m., and by appointment. The exhibit, entitled "Tropical Visions," provides strong, positive images of women of African and Caribbean descents. For more information, call 548-9286.

The Mussal Artworks Foundation & Gallery, 729 Heinz Ave., space 10, presents "The Sands of Time," an Arab/Muslim sculpture and ceramic exhibit by artist Khalil Bendib. Gallery hours Monday through Thursday, 10 to 5 p.m., or call for an appointment. For more information or an appointment, call 664-2735.

The City of El Cerrito presents Open Clay Studio ongoing classes on Mondays, 7-9 p.m. Experience with clay is helpful, but not necessary. Opportunities will be provided for students to explore areas of clay work. Demonstrations and instruction will be provided on requests. Admission: \$7.50, residents, \$9.38 nonresidents. The location: Tassajara Pottery Center, 2575

Tassajara Boulevard. For more information, call Judie at 215-4371.

Alta Bates Medical Center presents work by members of the California Watercolor Association at its Community Art Gallery, 2450 Ashby Ave., Berkeley. The gallery is in the main corridor to the left of the information desk and main entrance. Call 204-4444 for additional information.

New Places Gallery is located on Solano Avenue. New Places is the only gallery which shows quilts and soft cloth sculptures and dolls exclusively. The gallery is open during store business hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Sunday Noon to 5 p.m. except major holidays. Details: 527-6779.

Literary Events

The Reading Edge is available for public use at the Berkeley Public Library, 2121 Alston Way. This computer scans printed text and reads it back aloud with a synthesized voice. It's available for anyone with a disability that requires its use to access print material. Users must complete a brief training session before using the Reading Edge; after that, reservations are needed. Call the Reference Desk at 644-6648 to set up a training session.

Meetings

Berkeley Camera Club meets at 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays at the Northbrae Community Church, 941 The Alameda. Share your slides and prints and learn what other photographers are doing. Monthly field trips. For more information, call Don, 525-3565.

Kensington Senior Activity Center meets from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The West Contra Costa Adult school and community volunteers present the Center's program of life-long learning. Attend any class or event. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Volunteers of all ages are needed. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for more information.

Disabled American Veterans Chapter 25 meets on the third Tuesday of the month. The evening begins with a no host dinner and fellowship at 7 p.m. at 2068 Center St. A short business meeting follows at 8 p.m. at 1931 Center St., the Veterans Memorial Building. Price: \$3. Women who have had relatives in the US Military are invited to attend and join the auxiliary. For more information, call R. DeRit, Cmdr, D.A.V. Chapter 25, 916-372-8364.

The YWCA offers free orientations of its

Turning Point Career Center. The orientations outline the resources available to the public and the great variety of workshops held every Tuesday, 1:30 p.m. The Turning Point Career Center is located at 2600 Bancroft Way. For more information, call 848-6370.

The Berkeley Avatar Metaphysics Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Thursdays, from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., at 2515 Hillegass Ave. Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together. For more information, call 869-2547 or 643-7645.

Berkeley Toastmasters Club meet monthly, on the first and third Thursdays at 2515 Hillegass Ave. The group specializes in developing its communication and public speaking skills in the field of metaphysics. The group also learn from each other through short speeches. Call Odette Lards at 869-2547 or 643-7645.

The Kensington Senior Activity Center meets on Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. The center's community program of life-long learning is presented by the West Contra Costa Adult School. Attend any class or event you choose. Everyone over 55 is welcome. Call 526-9146 or 547-1969 for additional information.

See CALENDAR, Page C12

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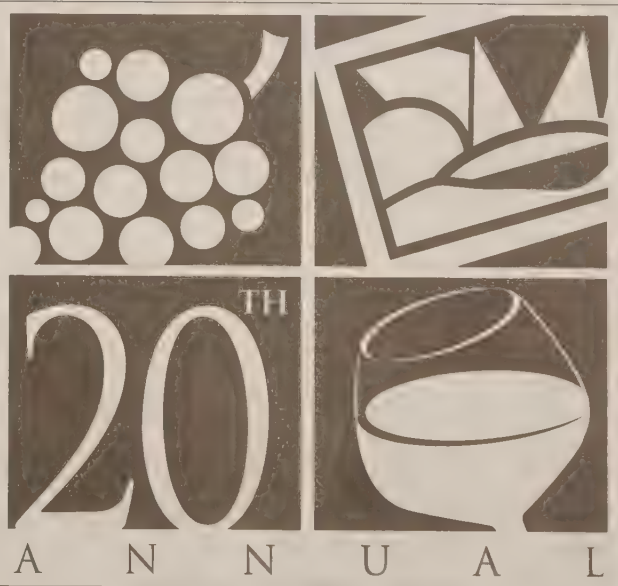
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ART & WINE

F E S T I V A L



JUNE 2ND & 3RD 2001

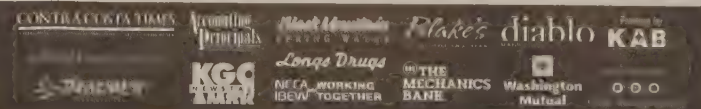
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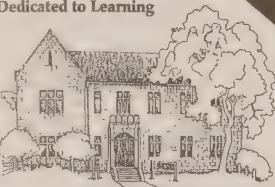
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Mexico City. Artistic Director Michael Morgan conducts the Oakland Youth Orchestra during the 1998 Latin American tour which culminated in OYO's concert in Havana, Cuba. Mary Morné Lawrence photo.

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CONTRA COSTA TIMES

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Basketball: Ages 8-14

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Baseball: Ages 9-12

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Tennis: Ages 8-18

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Skyhawks: Ages 4-7

(1) 1 Wk Session

Golf: Ages 8-14

(2) 1 Wk Sessions

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Grades 5-8; 8 Wks

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7/2-6 • 7/23-27

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Chess - Beg. and Int. Ages 6-11

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Kindermusik - Ages Newborn-4

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Calendar

FROM PAGE C9

The YWCA offers free orientations every Tuesday at 1:30 p.m. of its Turning Point Career Center, 2600 Bancroft Way. The orientations outline the center's resources and the variety of workshops it offers to the public. For additional information, call 848-6370.

Speak Smart! Join Beijing Express Toastmasters. The Smart Club! Meetings take place each Monday, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at Peking Express Restaurant, 2088 Center St. For additional information call 944-9671.

Toastmasters Meeting. Stand up and say what you mean. Come practice with us. Every Tuesday, Noon to 1 p.m. at 700 Heinz Ave. Berkeley. Call 883-6708 for additional information.

Take Pounds Off Sensibly (TOPS) meets every Thursday evening at the First Baptist Church, Richmond, on Solano below Arlington. Call Betty Coates 235-0490 for more information.

Joy of Yiddish: Yiddish conversation at 1 p.m. at the North Berkeley Senior Center, 901 Hearst. Call 844-6107 for additional information. The Berkeley Communicators Toastmasters Club meet on the first and third Wednesday of the month from 7:15 to 8:30 a.m. at the Berkeley City Club, 2315 Durant. Details: 524-3765.

The Berkeley Arthritis Support and Education Group meets on the second Tuesday of each month (except December) 1 to 2:30 p.m. in the Maffei Auditorium, Herick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Dr. Brian Kaye, a rheumatologist, has treated many patients with various types of arthritis and will be available for questions. For additional information call 204-4503.

Toastmasters on Campus meet the second and fourth Wednesday of the month from 6:15 to 7:30 p.m. at the English Language Program Building, 2515 Hillegass. Details: 704-1822.

Public speaking skills and metaphysics come together at Avatar Metaphysical Toastmasters. On-going meetings first and third Thursdays, 6:15 to 7:30 p.m., 2515 Hillegass Ave., Call 869-2547 for details.

"Voices of Healing" is a group exploring the psychological and spiritual dimensions of illness. The group meets on the second Friday of each month, 1 to 2:30 p.m. in North Berkeley. Call 528-1235 for more information.

State Health Toastmasters Club meet every second, third and fourth Thursday of the month from 12:10 to 1:10 p.m. at the State Health building, 2151 Berkeley Way. Details: 649-7750.

Higher Alignment: 7 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. Mondays; fun, informative seminars creating spiritual partnerships; Feldenkrais Center, 830 Bancroft Way, Berkeley; (415) 461-5337; \$20.

Alta Bates Support Groups - Arthritis Support Group meets the second Tuesday of every month; 1 - 2:30 p.m.; 204-4503. Call for additional special events.

Overeaters Anonymous, a 12 step pro-

gram providing free aid for those with eating problems, meets in Berkeley every Saturday at 8:30 a.m. (newcomers at 8 a.m.) at St. John's Church, 2727 College Ave. and in Richmond every Thursday at 7 p.m. at Kaiser Hospital, 901 Nevin (take Elevator C to the third floor). For further information, call 273-3292.

TOPS: 9:30 a.m., Mondays; Take Pounds Off Sensibly, Albany Chapter meets at 980 Stannage St. at Marin; 233-2948 or Karen, 525-6858.

Alta Bates Rehabilitation Center and East Bay Neurology sponsors a free monthly stroke support group. No advance reservations are required, drop-in anytime. The group meets the first Tuesday of each month from 4 p.m. to 5 p.m. in the Maffei Auditorium on Herick Campus, 2001 Dwight Way. Berkeley. Details: 204-4503.

Music

Frank Emilio Flynn, 60-year-old blind Cuban jazz pianist, performs at 7 p.m. Monday, May 28 at the La Pena Cultural Center, 3105 Shattuck Ave. Flynn played a crucial role in the evolution of Cuban Latin jazz. Admission: \$13 in advance and \$15 at the door. For advance tickets and information call 849-2568 or www.lapena.org.

Chamber Music Sundae, featuring members of the San Francisco Symphony, presents Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata, a Hindemith String Quartet and a Piano Quartet by Faure, at 3:15 p.m. Sunday, May 27 at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave. Admission: \$16 adults, \$13 for seniors and students and \$7 for youth under 18. For more information, call 415-584-5946.

The New Millennium Strings, conducted by Laurien Jones, opens its fourth season with two benefit concerts: a production for the Berkeley Food Pantry at 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 26, at University Christian Church, 2401 La Conte, Berkeley; the second performance at 5 p.m. Sunday May 27, benefits Albert Miner Memorial Scholarship Fund and is at Arlington Community Church, 52 Arlington Ave. in Kensington. Donations: \$10 adults and \$7 for students and seniors. Children under 12 are free. For more information, call 526-3331.

Berkeley High School Jazz Ensemble, Combos, and Lab Band perform at 7:30 p.m. Friday, May 25 at the Florence Schwimley Little Theatre, 1920 Alston Way. Proceeds from this concert contribute to keeping jazz alive at the high school. The Berkeley Jazz Ensemble will be on tour this summer in Europe, playing at the Montreux Jazz Festival in Switzerland and at the Umbria Jazz Festival in Italy. Tickets: \$8 adults and \$5 for seniors, BHS staff, and students. For more information, call 548-8026 or e-mail Dgerstler@AOL.com.

The Distaff Singers, an established East Bay Women's chorus, is seeking new members. No auditions required, just a love of singing. Classical, pop, sacred, Broadway. Rehearsals Tuesday nights, 7:15 p.m. to 9:15 p.m. Call Michelle 601-5624, or L.J. 482-1677.

Ducksan Distones, featuring Donald Bailey on piano, vocals, harmonica,

Isaiah Dixon, Acoustic Bass, Michael Lankford, Drums and Larry Giustino on Fretless Gibson L4, perform every Saturday night from 10 to 11 p.m. at Anna's Place, 1801 University at Grant. All ages welcome.

Ashkenaz, 1317 San Pablo Ave., presents Grateful Dead DJ night with Digital Dave and Jazz Z.D. on Thursday nights from 9:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tickets are \$4. Call 594-1400 for additional information.

Friday Night Folk Dancing: 8 p.m. - 11 p.m.; no partners necessary for line dances taught from Rumania, Bulgaria, Israel, Turkey, Near East and other lands each Friday from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m., followed by request dances from 9 p.m. to 11 p.m. No experience necessary - all ages welcome. Albany YMCA, 901 Kains Ave.; \$4; call 525-1542.

Outdoors

Learn to feed and care for orphaned baby birds: house sparrows, starlings and pigeons are introduced species that are not afforded care by rehabilitation groups. You can make an important contribution in returning these species to the wild life they deserve to

have. Free training and some supplies. Call Myrna 531-3042 or Lela 655-3911.

Turning Point at the YWCA, 2600 Bancroft Way, offers "Scribe Time," a technique that helps participants understand themselves and to find focus. The group meets on Tuesdays by appointments and is free to YWCA members. Call 848-6370 for additional information, leave a message for Anne Levine.

Support

A free Yoga for Cancer class meets every Wednesday from 11:30 to 12:45 p.m. at the Alta Bates Comprehensive Cancer Center. The classes are open to both current patients and long-term survivors. Call Janet, 891-9560, for directions and more information.

Lecture/Workshop

Tai Chi Chuan and Chi-kung classes take place at Berkeley Unitarian Church at 7 p.m. on Wednesday evenings and 9 a.m. Saturday mornings at Berkeley Fellowship of Unitarian Universalists, 1924 Cedar St. People of all ages and physical conditions are welcome to practice. Donation:

\$65. To sign up call 288-4995

Theater, Dance & Film

"Svetlana Village," a film depicting a community of volunteers and mentally disabled people in the country side of Russia, takes place at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 26 at the Fine Arts Cinema, 2451 Shattuck Ave. The community participants, 90 miles east of St. Petersburg in Russia, successfully grow organic food. Nearly half are developmentally disabled. Tickets: \$7-15 sliding donation at the door. For more information, call 848-1143.

"Hambone Hamtech Bring on the Groove," featuring Denique the clown, is 8 p.m. Friday and Saturday, May 25 and 26 at the Black Repertory Group, 3201 Adeline St. Directed and choreographed by Haifur Osumate, Hambone Hamtech takes the audience through early plantation-era African ceremonial dances. Prepare for a night of laughter and insight. Admission: \$12 adult, \$10 children, students, and seniors. Tickets may be purchased at the door. For

tickets and group sales information call 625-9720.

Classes

Folkdance classes, Mondays 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Arlington Community Church, 53 Arlington Ave. lessons from the Kensington Library. Simple and clear lessons for people of all ages. Emphasis is good music and fun. Cost: \$30 for 8-week session (prorated fees apply), \$8 for drop in session. For more information, call Ma Harte, at 848-5289 before 9 p.m.

Volunteers

Alta Bates Summit Medical Center 2001 Dwight Way, seeks volunteers for its Tele-Care program. Volunteers provide friendly, caring check-up calls on a daily basis to seniors, over 65 years old, and others who are homebound. Volunteers pick the days they would like to call and use phones at Alta Bates. For more information, call Sabra, 204-4487, Monday through Friday, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.



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RCA stereo 25" with remote F25261B	\$329	\$147
RCA remote 19" TV/VCR combo T19064B	\$299	\$167
RCA stereo 26" with remote F26634B	\$349	\$177
PANASONIC stereo 20" color CT20D10	\$249	\$187
RCA stereo 27" with remote F27667B	\$399	\$197
PANASONIC 20" TV/VCR combo PVC2080	\$399	\$267
PANASONIC SuperFlat 27" CT27SF36	\$599	\$297
RCA stereo 32" with remote F32648B	\$599	\$347
SONY stereo 32" Trinitron TV KV32S40	\$699	\$467
PANASONIC stereo 32" color CT32G34	\$649	\$477
RCA stereo 35" with remote F35317B	\$799	\$497
SONY 32" Wega w/ 2-tuner KV32FS10	\$999	\$697
PANASONIC 32" w/ twin-tuner CT32SF36	\$999	\$747
SONY stereo 35" Trinitron TV KV35S40	\$999	\$797
SONY 32" XBR Wega KV32XBR250	\$1699	\$1397
SONY 36" XBR Wega KV36XBR250	\$2099	\$1597

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HOME VIDEO

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SONY 36" XBR Wega KV36XBR250	\$2099	\$1597
MITSUBISHI WebTV receiver WB2000	\$199	\$37
PANASONIC remote VHS VCR PVQV201	\$79	\$57
VARIOUS open-box 4-head Hi-Fi VCR's		\$97
PANASONIC DVD/CD player DVDA120	\$249	\$147
MITSUBISHI DVD w/ comp. out DD4000	\$249	\$167
SONY remote DVD/CD player DVPS330	\$249	\$177
SONY 5-disc DVD/CD changer DVPC650	\$399	\$197
MITSUBISHI in-box S-VHS VCR HSU776	\$279	\$229
MITSUBISHI hi-end DVD player DD6000	\$799	\$397
YAMAHA in-box 5-disc DVD DVDC900	\$699	\$449
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SONY 53" w/ 2-tuner CON/RWC KP53V80	\$2199	\$1597
MITSUBISHI 60" with 2-tuner VS60605	\$1999	\$1597
MITSUBISHI 55" with 2-tuner VS55705	\$2199	\$1697
MITSUBISHI in-box stereo 50" VS50707	\$2299	\$1799
MITSUBISHI in-box stereo 60" VS60707	\$2399	\$1999

46" - 73" HDTV-READY

	Orig.	SALE
MITSUBISHI 46" widescreen WT46805	\$1999	\$1397
FAMOUS NAME 52" with 4:3 screen	\$2999	\$1997
MITSUBISHI in-box 46" w/ 16:9 WT46807	\$2999	\$1999
MITSUBISHI 50" w/ 4:3 screen VS50805	\$2999	\$2297
MITSUBISHI 60" w/ 4:3 screen VS60805	\$3999	\$2597
MITSUBISHI 65" widescreen WS65905	\$4999	\$2997
MITSUBISHI 16:9 73" SCL/CON WS73903	\$8999	\$2997
SONY 61" with 4:3 screen KP61XBR300	\$4999	\$3297

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	Orig.	SALE
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SONY 400-disc storage chgr CDPX400	\$299	\$177
YAMAHA open-box recvr w/ DD* RXV396	\$299	\$177
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YAMAHA open-box recvr w/ DD* RXV496	\$399	\$247
YAMAHA open-box DVD player DVDS796	\$399	\$247
YAMAHA open-box CD burner CDRS1000	\$599	\$277
YAMAHA open-box recvr w/ DD* RXV596	\$499	\$277
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Friday, May 25, 2001

Section D

Special feature Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge Wine Country Classic [D2]



AVONHILL GROUP INC
1962 VW BEETLE (Dianne's was
one of an aqua color).



VOLKSWAGEN
DISSECTED BEETLE from the
1967 marketing material.

Ups and downs in '62 VW Beetle

What other import has
had such an effect on
American culture?

BY DIANNE GLEI
Everyone's first car is special.
mine was a used 1962 Volkswagen
purchased when I needed a
car for my first newspaper job.

I was a late bloomer in getting
my driver's license. Because I al-
most ran the car through the
garage into the house, my mother
decided I wasn't ready to drive
while in high school.

So, I got my license while at
UCLA driving a friend's car. He
even taught me to parallel park. I've
avoided it as much as possible
since.

My bug was a pale aqua blue
and it was a fun car to drive around
southern California. I was one of
those "blondes in a VW" to watch
out for.

The car also had a spare gas
tank that held one gallon. When the
regular tank was empty, you flipped
the switch and had one gallon to get
to a gas station. And, a VW went a
long way on that gallon of gas—
it went all the way through
Big Sur to Santa Cruz.

MY FIRST CAR New Feature

Because I drove the freeways a
lot as a reporter, I worried about
something happening to my car.
Once, stopped at a traffic light in
downtown Los Angeles, the car be-
gan to shake violently. I feared that
it was going to die and I wouldn't
be able to get home. I lived about
25 miles south in San Pedro.

I looked up and the skyscrapers
were swaying. "Oh good," I
said to myself, "It's only an earth-
quake, not my car."

Of course, it was a stick shift. In
those days, you learned to drive
both the stick and automatic in driv-
ers' ed classes. I always thought
that was wise. Once you've learned
to use a stick shift, you never for-
get and can easily drive an auto-
matic. The only problem is what to
do with your left foot.

However, if you only learn on an
automatic, trying to drive a stick be-
comes very tricky. I helped a friend
from UCLA learn how in my VW,
driving the hills of San Francisco.

See FIRST, Page D4



MOTOR MATTER

New Jeep Liberty is the latest attention getter

It was surprising to see how
many drivers looked me over this
week. Actually, it wasn't me grab-
bing their attention; it was the all-
new 2002 Jeep Liberty.

I spoke with a couple of the rub-
bernecks and learned their interest
was somewhat nostalgic. Not so
much in the Liberty, but in the Jeep
"General Purpose" or "GP" vehicle
that helped us win WW II by getting
our troops through hell and high
water. It seems that anything that
deals with a Jeep grabs attention.

The Liberty replaces the Jeep
Cherokee, not to be confused with
the Grand Cherokee. Liberty is the
smaller version sport utility vehicle,

similar in size to the
old Cherokee. Be-
cause this vehicle
is completely dif-
ferent, Chrysler

gave it a new name to emphasize
the distinction.

The rear door was my intro-
duction to the Liberty. The Chrysler
people demonstrated how the
switch on the key fob raises the
rear window, allowing a person
who might be carrying packages
to drop them in the rear storage
area. Or the driver can pull the door
handle, causing the rear door to
open while the rear window raises.

This is but one of numerous clever

TOM KEANE
Keane on Wheels

innovations on the
Liberty.

I also liked the
easy-to-grasp in-
terior door handle.

Another neat idea: two armrests on
front doors, one at the normal el-
bow height, the other higher near
the window sill—something other
manufacturers will probably copy.

The inside and outside seem to
complement each other. Both look
tough, durable and ready for any
challenge from rough roads or dirty
assignments, yet both the inside
and outside have a distinct air of re-
spectability and refinement.

As I recall, it was the Cherokee

that got the sport utility bonanza
rolling back in 1984. Since then,
we've seen a tremendous influx of
SUVs in all shapes and sizes. I've
driven most of them, and each has
its merits, but I felt more at home
in the Liberty than in others. For one
thing, it's just my size. It is easy to
hop into, maneuver, and park, yet
carries five people in comfort.

Let me emphasize the word
comfort. I drove the Liberty close
to 1,000 miles, mostly on the high-
way. A couple of times I was
amazed at how enjoyable the Lib-
erty is. One reason is the Uniframe

See KEANE, Page D2

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down, \$2500 Security Deposit, \$5000 total drive-off, total of payments \$20,960.
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deal price/payment.
2001 A-6 2.8 Quattro COLD WEATHER PACKAGE, LEATHER, MOONROOF
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48 MONTH/50,000 MILE MAINTENANCE
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\$2500 Security Deposit, \$5000 total drive-off, total of payments \$21,916. Purchase option
\$32,359. 10¢/mile/yr. 20¢/mile penalty per mile over. #114991 (96737) at this
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Lease for only **\$499^{MO}**
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Local racers compete in Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge Wine Country Classic

SONOMA — Newport Beach's Jim Busby took the lead on the final lap on Sunday, May 20 and held on to win the Historic Grand Prix featuring Vintage Formula One race cars in Group 9 at Sears Point Raceway during the Chrysler-Jeep-Dodge Wine Country Classic.

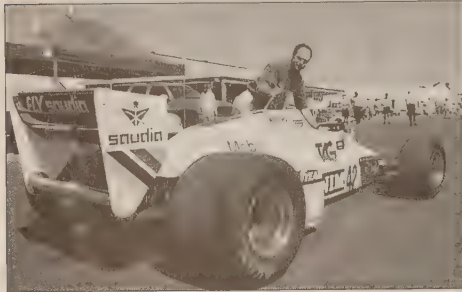
Busby, piloting a 1979 Tyrrell, was able to pass Steve Romak of Romak Iron Works in Oakland, to take the checkered flag in the 10-lap feature race on the 12-turn, 2.52-mile twisting road course. Romak, driving a 1983 Williams, held on for second and San Francisco's Dan Baker, in a 1977 MacLaren, took third place. Busby posted an average speed of 93.334 mph and led four of the 10 laps.

Finishing first in Class B racing (which included mid-'60s sports cars with racing engines such as

Corvette Stingrays and Shelby GTs) was Jack Schroll of Oakland, and coming in 19th was Daniel Gallant Jr., also of Oakland.

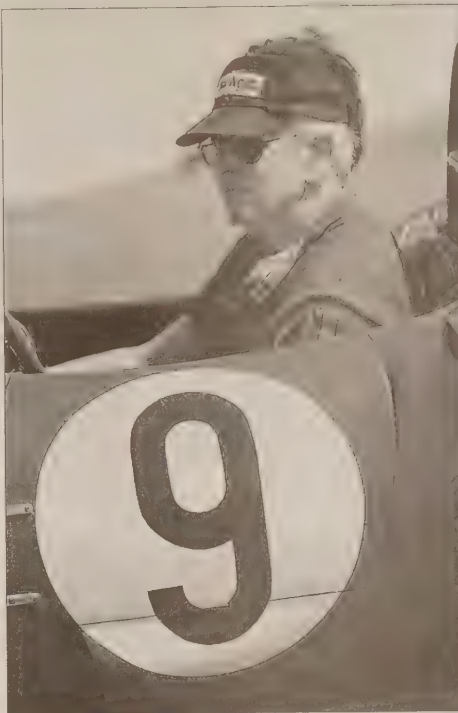
From Berkeley, David Love finished 22nd in his 1958 Ferrari 250 TR in Group 5 and Joe Jensen finished 21st in Group 2.

Checkered flag takers from each group included: Charles Shalvoy of Atherton, winner of Group 1 in his 1926 Bugatti T39A; Rick Cannon of San Jose, winner of Group 2 in his 1953 Cannon Mk4; Bob Patterson of Woodside winning Group 3 in his 1957 Corvette; Skip Streets of San Clemente taking Group 4 in his 1960 Mallock U2; Al Nowocinski of Huntington Beach winning Group 5 driving a 1965 LeGrand Mk4B; John Delane of Redondo Beach winning Group 6 in his 1964 Lotus 26R; and Jerry Mazzotta of Redding winning Group 7 in his 1973 Lola T-294.



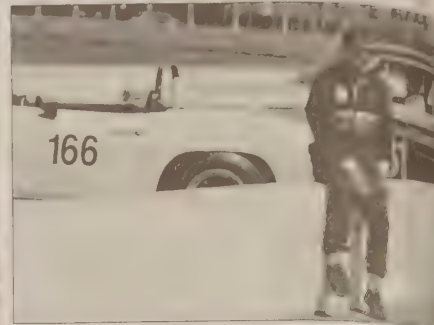
KEN PERKINS/STAFF

STEVE ROMAK of Walnut Creek with his '83 Williams.



KEN PERKINS/STAFF

DAVID LOVE of Berkeley in the number 9 car: 1958 Ferrari 250 TR.



WILLIAM NEU of Pleasant Hill meditates on the race with his '65 Corvette, number 166, waiting behind him

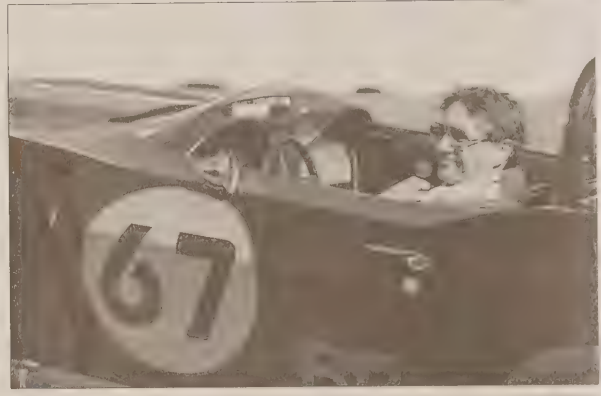


JERRY BURR of Berkeley driving a '57 Devin Special

BILL LYONS of Oakland in the rearview mirror of his '63 Alfa Romeo Giulia, car number 134



KEN PERKINS



DANIEL GALLANT JR. of Oakland prepares to pilot his 1966 Chevy Corvette

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96 Regal Custom #519468 \$10,775	97 Dodge Avenger Loaded, #084069 \$10,950	96 Mustang GT CP V8, 5 Speed, #155066 \$11,875	2000 Mitsubishi Galant SE SD 21,000 Miles, #114748 \$12,995	98 Regal GS Loaded, #100000 \$14,995	98 Toyota Tacoma Xtra Cab #118931 \$14,995	00 Pontiac Grand Prix SE Sdn. V6, CD, Rear Spoiler, #300156 \$14,995	98 Acura Integra LS Sport CP #600787 \$15,995
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DESPITE AN UNDERCOATING FIRE, getting dropped off a truck, exploding tires and other misfortunes, this 1957 Ford Fairlane still carries on.

Life of a Ford Fairlane from country to city

By any reasonable standard, this 1957 Ford Fairlane 500 four-door sedan should not have survived into the 21st century. It was purchased new with a base price of \$2,286 in Tennessee and years later moved to Kentucky. After serving there for several years, the Fairlane was parked in 1986 on a grassy yard along Route 70 near Morgantown, Ky., with a "For Sale" sign in the wraparound windshield.

William Arbaugh, a Texan temporarily working and residing in Kentucky, took notice of the old Ford. Stopping to inspect the vehicle, Arbaugh saw the odometer had registered 23,323 miles which, he thought, was probably 123,323 miles or more. But the owner had purchased the Ford from the original owner's family and had all the papers and receipts to prove

VERN PARKER
Classic Classics

the history of the car was accurate. Arbaugh began to negotiate a price for the then 29-year-old Ford. "The old fellow wanted \$1,000, and that was that," Arbaugh recalls. "If you can prove that the car would drive at least 50 mph and stay on the road, I will pay up," Arbaugh replied. That's when the owner began to hem and haw. "The battery is down and the gas is low," the owner said, suggesting Arbaugh should return the next weekend. The suitor returned the following weekend and found the Ford was untouched. He told the owner if he wanted to deal, he had

better come up with a charger and some gasoline, pronto.

Seeing that Arbaugh meant business, the owner of the 1957 Fairlane found a two-amp charger and some lawn mower gasoline. Since the battery would take overnight to be charged, Arbaugh was invited to spend the night at the owner's house. That was beyond unusual.

"The next morning, we got the car started," Arbaugh says. That's when he got the ride of his life. The owner set out to demonstrate the capabilities of the Ford on a two-lane country road. Soon the Ford was racing along at 85 mph with the owner wrestling the deep-dish steering wheel, barely keeping the car out of the ditches.

See CLASSIC, Page D5

Keane

FROM PAGE D1

construction, which contributes to the stiffest Jeep body ever made. The structure provides better ride comfort and handling. And mentally, the Liberty is comforting because the Chrysler designers showed me numerous areas in which occupant protection had been a primary concern.

The Liberty is available with the choice

of a 2.4-liter, four-cylinder or a 3.7-liter, V-6 engine. My tester had the bigger engine. Incidentally, this engine can tow 5,000 pounds. I drove the automatic transmission, but Liberty also comes with a five-speed manual. The bigger engine was linked to a multi-speed automatic transmission that not only has a proven track record, but also excellent shift quality.

A lever close to the driver's right leg allows shifting from 2WD to 4WD, neutral and 4WD low. I did some off-roading during the Chrysler introduction, and after the

terrain I travelled, I would not be afraid to take this SUV anywhere.

Nor would I be afraid to go shopping for the Liberty. In a day when most SUVs display skyrocket prices, the Liberty starts at \$17,000 for the base model with 2WD, and \$23,500 will cover the top-of-the-line model with everything on it.

The only downside to the Liberty is the rubbernecks who gawk, beseeching me to give walk-arounds in parking lots. But that will pass; soon the roads will be loaded with the Liberty.

First

FROM PAGE D1

It was a jerky day, but I was young. I don't like driving a stick shift there today.

Being quite a bit older than my three brothers, I decided to be a good big sister and give the oldest of my brothers my VW for his 16th birthday which happens to be on Christmas Day.

I drove the car from Southern California to Santa

Cruz, where my mother lived. I created a series of clues leading from one place to another until he got to the final package which contained the car keys.

I was very proud of myself, and of course, he was delighted. I flew back to Southern California and my new car, an Opel Kadette.

This was their version of a sporty little car. It even had black stripes. I never formed the attachment to it that I had to my bug.

About a month later, my mother called to inform me that my brother had totaled my (his) car. He was driving with friends and went down a ravine.

Fortunately, they all walked away, but the VW bug could not be salvaged. Needless to say, none of my other brothers received a car from me on their 16th birthdays.

Dianne Giel, who lives in San Ramon, is Auto Editor of the Contra Costa Times

We want to hear about your first or favorite car. Call Dennis Evanovsky at 510-748-1655 or e-mail devanovsky@cctimes.com



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TORQUE (lb.-ft.)	235 at 4000 rpm
TRANSMISSION	4-speed automatic
WHEELBASE	104 in. 2649 mm
TREAD (front/rear)	.60 / .60 in. 1524 / 1516 mm
OVERALL LENGTH	174 in. 4430 mm
OVERALL WIDTH	.72 in. 1819 mm
HEIGHT	.73 in. 1859 mm
CURB WEIGHT	4,115 lbs. 1867 kg
FUEL CAPACITY	.18 gals. 70 L
TOWING CAPACITY	5,000 lbs.
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STRONG FEATURE	Ride quality
WEAK FEATURE	Nothing worth mentioning

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For the guy who has everything: car gadgets galore

Day, post-Father's Day, anniversary night, graduation, wedding, birthday, anniversary, excuse to buy gifts for a guy or a girl. Here are some suggestions to surprise and delight a guy with wheels. Prices do not include shipping.

Of course, you'd expect an outdoor car cover. California Car Cover Co. offers custom-made car covers, and they do, in a range of high-tech fabrics that are custom-fitted to a car, truck, sport utility vehicle or motorcycle to protect it from sun, dust, moisture, acid rain, parking lot dings and unwanted attention. Prices range from \$90 to \$350. 800/423-5525 or www.calcarcover.com.

Car covers far from exhaust the company's gift ideas. At \$24.99,

there's a digital tire gauge with an LCD display that's a snap to read, even at night. And for the man with a trailer hitch and a pro football team to root for, there are hitch covers that plug into the unused hitch while plugging his team: Broncos, Raiders, Cowboys — all 31 NFL teams are available. Prices start at \$32.99.

Retro is "in," so what better than a Hawaiian shirt, surf-colored and printed all over with woodie station wagons? Lo-o-ong surf boards lean against them. Price: \$76.99. Other car themes cover similar shirts. Bigger-ticket items are car-based Kustom Couches. Two-seater leather couches are set into what appears to be the back ends of a 1967 Shelby Cobra, a 1951 Mercury or a 1957 Corvette. An assortment of

color combinations are available, some with flame painting where appropriate. Price: \$2,995.99.

Griot's Garage is another catalog I fancy for car care products, tools and an assortment of stuff to make any garage more workable. Particularly useful, if the vehicle of choice is a full-size pickup or SUV, is a telescoping squeegee that reaches from 28 inches to 50 inches, long enough to do the windshield without walking around. It sells for \$19.95.

For your tires, Griot's also has valve caps with car logos on them. Match them to your car or dream a bit. (On my Suzuki Sidekick, I have Ferrari valve stem covers.) Maybe you prefer Audi, Lexus or Alfa Romeo. The valve stem covers

come four to a set, with a matching key ring that serves as a valve wrench (\$29.95). Or maybe your man would like a chrome roller-ball pen with a favorite car logo on the end. That's \$39.95. How to reach Griot's Garage: 800/345-5789 or www.griotsgarage.com.

Here's a way to let him express his hot-rod soul on weekends while passing as a station-wagon guy during the week: removable magnetic Fifties Flames decals that add zip to any vehicle. Flame a minivan to express a conflicted personality. These stick-on flames are also works of art, signed by Art Himself. A set of flames, two each, cost \$49.95 from Herrington, the Enthusiasts' Catalog.

From Gadget Universe comes a

true party maker: a combination ice chest with a built-in AM-FM radio. It's a bright yellow polyurethane (6 inches x 18 inches x 8 inches) with splash-proof radio speakers. The cost is \$59.95. Another useful item from Gadget Universe is a key holder ring attached to Torpedo Mini Torchlight. It's about as big as a thumb, has high-tech good looks and a keen blue light (\$19.95). Choose silver, black, red or blue. Call 800/872-6250.

You might find the last item in any auto supply store, but I found mine in Pep Boys in the air freshener department. And they are air fresheners in that fragrance is involved, but their greater value might be that they light up when your cell phone rings. They flash even when the phone is



DENISE MCCLUGGAGE
—Photo: Steve Land

on "silent" or "vibrate." (As long as they are within 4 or 5 feet of the phone.) One I found is a plastic white duck about 3 inches high with a red bow tie (about \$10). Its belly glows red when your cell phone "rings." About \$5 is a tiny clear plastic air plane with a propeller that turns in the breeze of your air vent, which it clips to. It twinkles when activated. A Cell-Tell Buddy can alert phone users when noise might drown out the ring. Better yet, cell phone ads can turn the ring off, take a duck to lunch, not miss a thing and grant the rest of us ring-free bliss.

Classic

FROM PAGE D4

Arbaugh told him that he had a deal on the car. He told him that he had a deal on the car. He told him that he had a deal on the car.

Another week passed before Arbaugh returned to collect his prize. He replaced a noisy rear wheel bearing and drove to Morgantown for more spare parts. "I just made it to town when a neon-green gas line ruptured," Arbaugh relates. He coasted to the auto supply shop where he bought parts to make repairs. He then set off on the 100-mile trip home to Calvert City, Ky.

By October, Arbaugh's contract job was complete, and he drove his Ford with the canted tail fins home to Houston. "The old Ford did pretty well at 70 mph," Arbaugh says, although he experienced overheating problems in traffic.

Arbaugh was elated when he removed the seat covers and found the original upholstery still in fairly good condition. After a 23-month mechanical restoration, the V8 engine was overhauled and soon was pulling the 3,384-pound car in like-new style.

The fateful day was Jan. 16, 1999. The fateful site was 70 miles south of Houston, where Arbaugh was cruising along, enjoying the comfortable ride provided by the 118-inch wheel-

base, when a 14-inch rear tire exploded, caught fire, and ignited the undercoating on the car. Before the fire department arrived, the fire consumed most of the car up to the firewall.

Arbaugh contracted a roll-back truck to haul his now 42-year-old, fire-damaged Ford home. While in route, a tie-down securing the car to the truck vibrated loose. The hapless 1957 Ford, in Arbaugh's words, "went sailing off the platform of the truck and landed like the space shuttle." Luckily, the gas tank did not explode. "All the shattered glass that had not fallen out before did so at this time," Arbaugh relates. The car was winched back aboard the truck and was hauled back to Houston without further incident.

"The next day I began taking the car apart again," Arbaugh says. "I did 95 percent of the work myself this time as I could not afford to do otherwise. I had been storing spare parts for the car since the last restoration, so I had a good many of the difficult parts on hand."

Most of his life was spent as an electrical design draftsman, so the rewiring of the Ford was the easy part. Now that the Ford is back in good health, Arbaugh says, "I have not had the nerve to tally all the receipts as yet." Some things are better left unknown.



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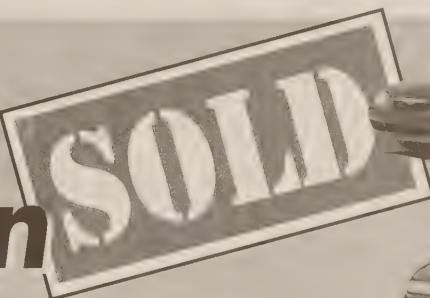
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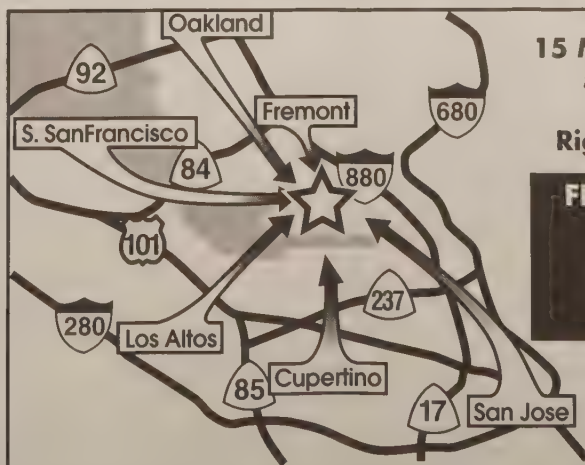
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Spare Parts

NEW HONDA CIVIC: An all-new hatchback version of the Honda Civic carrying the legendary "Si" badge will go on sale in early 2002. Under the hood of the three-door Civic Si is a high output DOHC 2.0-liter i-VTEC engine that produces 160-horsepower and 130 lb.-ft. of torque. The i-VTEC is the next generation of cleaner and more powerful engines that feature Honda's patented Variable Valve Timing

and Engine Control technology. A performance-oriented five-speed manual transmission is mounted, rally style, on the center dashboard. The close proximity to the steering wheel allows for quick shifts and a sporty feel.

BUSH SLAMS BRAKES: The Bush Administration is cancelling a 2004 deadline for automakers to develop prototype cars that would get up to 80 miles per gallon. The National Automobile Dealers Association

reports Energy Department officials and automakers will meet to discuss revised changes in the "super-car" development program.

WAIT FOR COOL PLUGS: Always let the engine cool down before replacing spark plugs, especially on vehicles that have aluminum heads. Removed when hot, the spark plugs can rip the threads right out of the head. *Source: Reader's Digest Simple Car Care & Repair.*



NEW HONDA CIVIC hatchback Si

Airbag flashing light must be repaired

Dear Doctor: I own a 1993 Mercury Topaz. My problem is the airbag light flashes. I went to the dealer, and he said there were no trouble codes stored. The serviceman told me to drive the car, and the computer may reset itself. What do you suggest? Santiago

Dear Santiago: If the airbag light is flashing, the airbag will not deploy in an accident. Take your Mercury to another dealership, even a Ford dealer or independent shop. They can scan the computer for trouble codes. I would not go back to the dealer that said the computer may reset itself.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1992 Infiniti Q45. Every morning when I start the engine, I hear a banging sound that lasts for only three or four seconds. I have checked all the fluids and have started using Mobil One oil, but the noise is still there. What are your thoughts? Tom

Dear Tom: The most common cause of engine noise when the vehicle is first started after sitting overnight is hydraulic lifter bleed-down. This situation occurs when the oil drains out of the lifters, causing the lifter not to have pressure against the camshaft. As soon as the oil pressure builds up, the hydraulic lifters fill with oil and hold pressure again, and the noise is gone. Some engines have adjustable valve lifters that can sometimes eliminate the start-up tick. As long as the noise goes away within 30 seconds, I would not do anything.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1997

JUNIOR DAMATO
Ask the Auto Doctor

Ford F-150 with the 5.4-liter V-8. My complaint is no heat. The top of the radiator gets hot; however, both heater hoses going into the fire wall are cold. What is the problem? Robert

Dear Robert: A restriction or blockage in the heater core or heater control valve could be the source of the problem. In some rare cases, I have found silicone sealer blocking the water outlet to the heater core. Other possibilities include weak water pump impeller, partly blocked radiator core, or even a weak thermostat can cause poor circulation. One other possibility is a leaking cylinder head gasket that allows too much pressure in the cooling system.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1991 Ford Ranger with 141,000 miles. During the cold winter months both the temperature and gas gauge stop working. They work fine in warm weather. The truck is in great shape. What can I do to fix the problem? Liz

Dear Liz: There could be a problem in the dash cluster. Have the shop take out the dash cluster and put it in the refrigerator or freezer. The technician can plug it into the wiring harness and see if the gauges work. Another cause of the problem could be related to the engine temperature or temp sender. The technician can

See DOCTOR, Page D7

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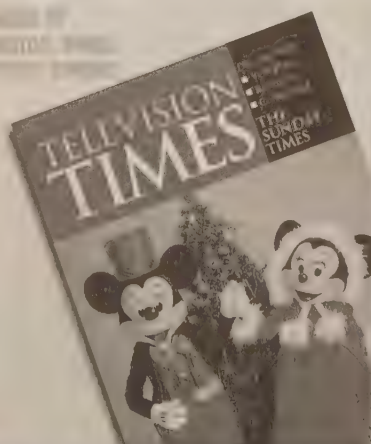
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RV waste system maintenance

It's a dirty job

The waste holding tanks are vital parts of an RV's self-contained system, yet they're not exactly a subject people enjoy discussing.

Nevertheless, there are a few interesting points about waste-system operation and maintenance that RV owners might not be aware of.

Most self-contained RVs have two separate holding tanks: grey water, for shower and sink waste, and black water, for toilet/sewage waste.

Grey pretty much takes care of itself, except for an occasional chemical clean out and sterilization. The black tank is another matter, because the noxious nature of the tank's contents calls for drastic measures to keep the RV civil.

To keep the black tank odors under control, users add deodorant chemicals that also help break down the waste products into liquid form.

There is a wide variety of black tank treatment chemicals available, including the oldest style that's based on a formaldehyde formula. In the interest of reducing hazardous waste, manufacturers have also developed a variety of non-formaldehyde tank chemicals, and some of the newer products are environmentally friendly and based on living organisms.

JEFF JOHNSTON
Rolling Homes

The chemical-type products are easy to use. Dump them in, wait for them to work, and flush them out.

The enzyme-type products are a bit more complicated in that they usually involve a tank "preconditioning" process whereby an extra-heavy treatment more or less gets the interior of the black tank coated with the enzyme product, which means each subsequent treatment requires less product addition after each tank dump.

If your fluid-level-indicator readout panel starts to give false information, and sooner or later it definitely will, it's possible the tank interior may be lined with debris that's creating a false reading.

Alternately, it could simply mean some electrical contacts are old and corroded.

Check all of your wiring connections to make sure they're in good condition, and especially, check the ground wires.

A bad ground will throw off the level readout faster than any other problem.

Given the moisture that's so close to many of the wires and the dust and contaminants that can likewise creep into the system, a complete checkup now and then is a good idea.

If you need to clean out the tank,

Some of the newer products are environmentally friendly and based on living organism enzymes.

and at least once a year is a good idea even if everything is working fine, start by emptying the black tank and refilling it most of the way with a solution of 6 ounces of bleach to 10 gallons of water. Tow or drive the rig around to slosh the tank interior.

Then drain the water and refill the tank with fresh water and add about a 1/2-cup of baking soda to each 10 gallons of water. Drive around again, drain the tank and it's ready to use.

If you plan to use the enzyme-type tank chemical, you might want to flush the tank once more with fresh water before adding the chemicals.

The bleach mix added to clean the tank interior can also kill the enzymes, greatly reducing their effectiveness while leaving just the detergent aspect of the chemical active.

Wait until the black tank is at least half-full before you dump to ensure there's enough water in the tank to fully wash the solid from the



MOTOR MAT

TO KEEP THE RV'S BLACK TANK odors under control, add deodorant chemicals that will also help break down the waste products into liquid form.

tank. If in doubt, pour several gallons of fresh water down the toilet just before the dump.

Once the black tank is emptied and you're ready to add your chemical of choice, it works best to "prime" the black tank with some water along with the new chemicals.

There is relatively little fluid added to the black tank compared to, say, the shower, dishwashing and sink wastewater that drains into the grey tank.

The solids that go into a black tank can literally pile up in the absence of adequate water to make them spread out and settle to the bottom of the tank.

The "prime" water also helps the chemical work its way around the black tank contents.

The few ounces of chemical you add to the tank can get lost down in a low corner of the tank where it doesn't get mixed in with the waste until adequate waste fluid enters the tank.

To do the prime, use a bucket and add about 2-4 gallons of fresh-water, along with the holding tank chemical.

That water goes a long way towards helping your chemical do its deodorizing and waste-digestion job.

Follow these few extra steps and procedures, and you may find that maintaining the holding tank system is as painless and hassle-free as caring for any part of your RV.

Doctor

FROM PAGE D.

check the dash cluster ground and the printed circuit on the cluster.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1996 Dodge Ram Van 2500 with 40,000 miles. At 36,000 miles, the transmission shifted oddly. At 37,000 miles, there was a loud droning noise in reverse. I took the van in for warranty repairs three times for this transmission problem and now the noise is worse.

The dealer said the transmission needs further work, and now Chrysler will not do it under warranty. I spent over \$20,000 dollars for this van, and now the carmaker looks the other way. What can I do? Karl

Dear Karl: Chrysler has had an ongoing problem with its transmissions since late 1989. My head technician had a noise problem with his 1996 4x4 Dodge Ram 1500.

The dealer kept the truck for a week, installed a new 4x4 transfer case and said the noise was repaired.

We checked for the noise, which is still there, and found it to be the left front wheel bearing. (We are still waiting for a call back from Chrysler.)

If the dealer will not get involved, take him and Chrysler to court. This can be a small claims court action without lawyer involvement. Take a copy of this column to your local shop, and ask the manager if he has either Alldata or Mitchell's On Demand.

If so, get a printout of all technical service bulletins on your transmission. The judge will find this information very helpful.

Dear Doctor: I own a 1979 Mazda RX7 with 80,000 miles. I

recently had the car tuned up at a local shop. Shortly after the tuneup, at normal engine temperature, the engine would stall out at idle in traffic. I am having trouble finding a mechanic to work on the car. I love the car and now do not know what to do. Tom

Dear Tom: Finding a technician who understands the rotary engine will be difficult. I suggest going to a Mazda dealer. If the people there cannot help, they may know of a shop that can. You can also get on the Internet and look for help. It sounds like a carburetor or vacuum problem.

Dear Doctor: I recently purchased a 2002 Subaru Impreza sport wagon. How long can I wait before I wax the car? Can you recommend a good wax? Rich

Dear Rich: Unlike years ago, you can wax the car the day you bring it home. Most cars are lightly waxed before delivery by the dealer. As for the type of wax, I use a paste wax — Mother's or Meguiar's clear coat formula.

After you wash and dry the car, use a quick spray detail between hand waxing. Hint: When you do the final rinse of the car, remove the hose nozzle and let the water flow over the car. You will see the difference.

Dear Doctor: What is the best way to change the power steering fluid in my 1992 Honda Civic? What is the recommended procedure to keep the CV boot rubber soft and pliable? Paul

Dear Paul: We use a power steering flush machine. As a do-it-yourselfer, use a small suction pump, such as a kitchen turkey baster. You can buy a second one for the brake fluid changing. Never mix any other fluid with brake fluid. As for the front

axle CV boot treatment, you can spray any kind of rubber treatment on the CV boots. The CV boot rubber does not need any type of sealant spray protection. Anything you use for treatment will not hurt in any way.

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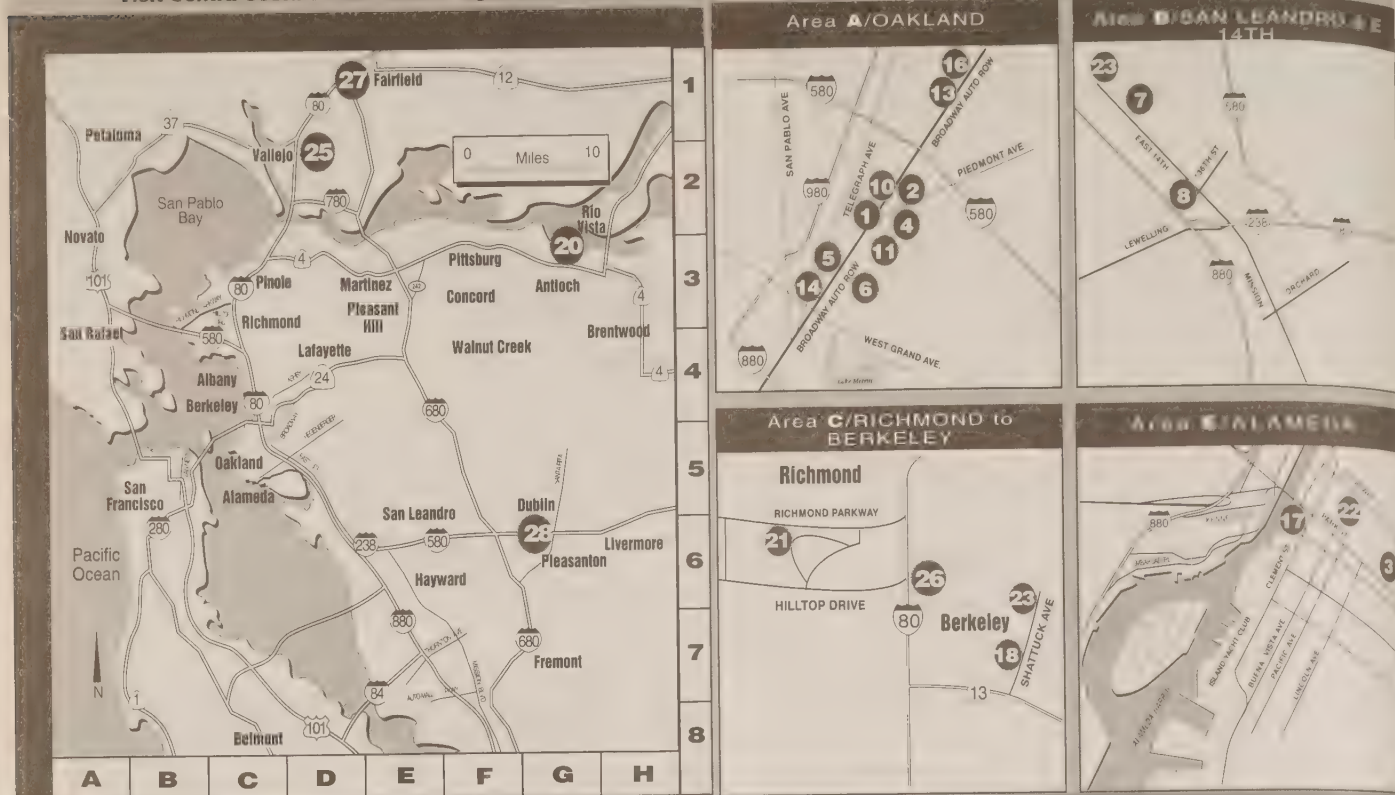
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Calistoga Mineral Water, part of the Perrier Group, the leading bottled water company in America has an opening in its Mfg. Accounting organization. We are seeking a hands-on individual to aid with implementation of new systems and policies while enhancing current controls to ensure the safeguarding of company assets. This is a new position that requires strengths in product costing, variance analysis and inventory control. This person will be a part of the management team at the plant. Must possess the ability to work independently and be able to identify cost improvement opportunities. At the same time, this person must have a firm grasp of accounting concepts and principles. Requires a Bachelor's degree with an emphasis in Accounting or Finance; prior manufacturing experience a plus. Please fax all resumes Attn: Jim Harrington at (909) 390-2258, AA/EOE

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
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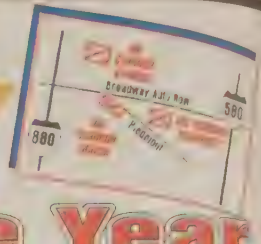
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Sablefish, King Neptune's Cinderella

NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK — Sablefish is the Cinderella of the seafood world. But unlike Cinderella, who was transformed in a day, it took sablefish three-quarters of a century to move from the 700 Lower East Side, where it sold for 70 cents a pound and was usually carried home wrapped in butcher paper, to today's grand temples of gastronomy. On its circuitous journey uptown, sablefish, the stuff of Jewish delis, has assumed a new name and been cloaked in elegant new garments. It has become the darling of the culinistas.

The nom de cuisine of the paprika-covered smoked sable of my childhood is black cod, but long before this buty, silken fish, with its pristine white flesh, appeared in the rarefied halls of Daniel, Ducasse and Lutece, it was a delicacy in Japan. Japan still consumes about 95 percent of the American catch, most of which comes from Alaska. Though fresh black cod has long been popular in Seattle and the Makah Indians were fishing it centuries ago, and though every deli in New York has sold smoked sable since the beginning of time, no serious chef paid attention to it until Nobu introduced miso-glazed black cod as its signature dish about six years ago. The marinade, a traditional Japanese mixture of mirin, sake, miso and sugar, gives the fish a sharp sweet flavor dear to the heart of the American palate.

It was only a matter of time before other chefs began to copy the triumph of Nobu, the Japanese-Peruvian restaurant in Tribeca, and now miso cod pops up all over town, from Oceana, Inagiku and Oyster Bar in Midtown to Annisa in Greenwich Village and Ruby Foo's on the Upper West Side, where it is also the restaurant's signature dish. A similar version, with honey, soy, grape-seed

oil and white wine vinegar, is also the featured dish at Cello.

But those who aspire to true chef-dom are always tasting things in their heads and no sooner had the miso-glazed version escaped from Japanese kitchens than others began to experiment, even at Nobu. There, black cod is also served with a slice of foie gras draped over its already succulent little body or in a butter lettuce cup topped with fried kataifi, the shredded version of phyllo, and a drizzling of miso sauce. This is finger food, with the lettuce used as a wrap.

Chefs have also dreamed up lofty uses for the smoked sable of deli fame (once known in that world as the poor man's sturgeon), dishes that old Jewish appetizing store owners could hardly have imagined.

"My grandfather would be rolling over in his grave," said Mark Federman, speaking of Joel Russ, who in 1914 opened Russ & Daughters, the smoked fish emporium that Federman now owns. "He had no clue the stuff he was selling was anything but Jewish peasant food. It always had a very declassé aura. Today it sells for \$26 a pound."

Daniel Boulud, the epitome of the modern French chef, likes fresh black cod only when it is served miso-style, but he loves it when it is smoked. He giggled when he learned that he was working with an old Jewish delicacy.

"I knew there was lox," Boulud said, "but I didn't know there was sable." Yet he has chosen to prepare it in a way that he describes as "a little bit Eastern European, a little Nordic." The fish's richness has a natural affinity for ingredients like yogurt, cucumbers and beets. In the middle of his exquisite cucumber yogurt soup scented with lemon grass

See SABLEFISH, Page 9



TONY CENICOLA/NEW YORK TIMES



POTATO SALAD WITH SMOKED SABLE (top) at Verbena in downtown Manhattan. Below, Alaskan black cod prepared at Cello in Midtown. It took sablefish three quarters of a century from the Lower East side to today's grand temples of gastronomy.

TONY CENICOLA/NEW YORK TIMES

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GRILL SEASON

Grills burn year-round and menus expand

BY JOAN BRUNSKILL
ASSOCIATED PRESS

There's almost no kind of food we are not marinating, basting and browning on the grill.

Still, however often grilling mitts are pulled on, tongs are brandished and eyes start to smart from that appetizing smoke, Memorial Day serves to give many families a holiday around which to focus festive preparations.

The art of grilling inspires major statements from fans.

"Grilling is the world's oldest cooking method," Steven Raichlen, grilling authority and cookbook writer, pronounced recently. "I believe barbecuing begot civilization. It's central to the human experience."

His books include "The Barbecue! Bible" (Workman, 1998) and his newest, "How To Grill" (Workman, 2001). The word barbecue can mean several things, he pointed out: a style of cooking; the equipment on which you cook; the food or preparation you cook, and an occasion.

"Its meaning differs by region," he added. "Real barbecue may be one of the few truly regional American foods."

He defined terms: "Grilling can be direct — right over the heat — or indirect, always covered, a sort of outdoor oven. True barbecue is always indirect, slow, with a lot of smoke."

Raichlen was talking as he prepared food for the grill on the deck of a waterfront restaurant in Manhattan, at a cookout organized by Cutco Cutlery.

The cookout's eclectic menu illustrated points Raichlen made: Bar-

becue has moved to the edge of the plate as well as occupying the center; it's expanded to include first courses, side dishes, main-course centerpieces and desserts; and it's become global, with cooks worldwide borrowing from each other's traditions. This menu included fruit used in appetizers and dessert, along with seafood, chicken, tofu and assorted veggies.

Raichlen slathered seasoned butter on bread, to make garlic bread; he deftly carved out a chicken's backbone, so the bird would lie flat on the bars; he sliced a juicy pineapple to dip in coconut milk, then in brown sugar, cinnamon and cloves, to grill for dessert. He delivered a fluent commentary as he worked.

Among points he made:

Your chicken will burn if it's basted too early, especially if there's a lot of sugar in the sauce. Use a rub before cooking, perhaps some combination of a little sugar, paprika, salt and pepper. Later, with a brush, "mop" on a sauce that could be a mix of vinegar, salt, pepper and chili; another sauce might be a mixture of ketchup (it has everything in it), Coke (or Sprite or beer), steak sauce, Worcestershire sauce, garlic, onion, liquid smoke ("it's very effective, it's a natural product, made from wood").

Use soaked wood chips to give extra smokiness. And, "Don't throw away the pineapple trimmings," he said. "Throw them on the coals, too, to add to the smoke flavor."

Take care of the grill itself, for good grill hygiene: Always make sure it's clean before you begin (give it a final scrub with crumpled foil), then oil it, using paper towel

and oil.

Arrange your chicken pieces or whatever you're cooking at an angle across the grate, so the sear marks are diagonal — that makes for a nicer look.

The art of grilling calls for both common sense and passion, said his collaborator at the grill event, Fritz Sonnenschmidt, dean of the Culinary Institute of America, host of TV's Grilling Maestros.

"Barbecuing is to me the perfect technique — your kitchen never gets dirty," he said. "It's so simple. The key to it, all you have to have is an understanding of your food and then marinating. It's a very easy process, to cook when you get home from work, almost everything can go on the grill."

You can make a lot ahead, he said, citing his own family routine. "My wife and I set up everything for the evening meal, then the first one home gets it started."

With enviable ease he put together imaginative selections of grillable ingredients, skewering combinations of apple, walnuts, kumquats and ham; and plump shrimps marinated in green tea ("a fantastic concept of a very old idea from the Chinese tradition"), to serve with sweet-and-sour sauce.

For vegetarians, there was tofu marinated in red wine, balsamic vinegar, orange juice and honey, to grill and serve with wilted spinach.

He rattled off a litany of smart tips for the less professional cooks among us:

"Peel fresh ginger with a spoon — see how fast it goes? You can shave it off right into the saucepan."

See GRILL, Page 3



MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND marks the unofficial start of grilling season, though in the Bay Area, grills are active all year round.

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GRILL SEASON

Grill salmon in a bun, for a change

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Here's an easy way to serve salmon with a twist: It takes the place of a burger, sandwiched in toasted rolls, at the cookout.

This recipe for BBQ salmon sandwich comes from chef Randy Waldner of Chicago's Weber Grill restaurant.

He suggests you serve it with asparagus and potatoes, which you grill lastly over the same fire. For seasoning, use a favorite prepared barbecue rub and sauce. Common rub that would suit salmon could be a combination of salt, sugar, pepper combined with chopped herbs such as dill or shallots to suit your taste.

BBQ Salmon Sandwich
 1/2 cup 6-ounce fresh salmon fillets
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 1/2 cup barbecue rub
 1/2 cup barbecue sauce
 4 onion, sliced 1/4-inch thick

1 large ripe tomato, sliced 1/4-inch thick
 4 leaves Boston or leaf lettuce
 4 kaiser rolls, toasted lightly

Brush the salmon with the oil and season with barbecue rub. Sear the fish on one side for 2 minutes directly over the fire (direct heat). Turn fish over and sear for 2 minutes. Move fish to the side of the fire (indirect heat), baste with your favorite barbecue sauce and cook until done, about 6 more minutes.

Garnish with red onion, a slice of tomato and Boston or leaf lettuce, serve on a toasted kaiser roll. Makes 4 servings.

Note: For a more complex flavor, the onions and tomatoes may be grilled. Just slice the onions and tomatoes 1/4-inch thick; season with salt and pepper and olive oil before grilling about 4 to 5 minutes.

Nutrition information per serving: 550 cal., 22 g fat (3 g saturated

fat) 480 mg sodium, 41 g pro., 95 mg chol., 48 g carbo.

Grilled side dishes

Asparagus and Potatoes

16 large asparagus spears
 4 medium Yukon Gold potatoes
 2 tablespoons olive oil
 Salt and pepper to taste

Clean and trim asparagus, season with olive oil, salt and pepper. Grill asparagus directly over the fire for about 5 minutes.

Clean and cut potatoes in quarters, season with olive oil, salt and pepper. Grill over low fire until tender, about 10 to 15 minutes.

Nutrition information per serving: 180 cal., 14 fat (2 g saturated fat), 10 mg sodium, 2 g pro., 0 mg chol., 13 g carbo.

For diners who want wine with their meal, Waldner suggests a Chardonnay as a good complement to the salmon. The fresh fruity

flavor of this white wine balances the spiciness of the barbecue rub.

Waldner endorses the idea of having a glass of wine with barbecue. "Forget the myth that wine is only for fancy food and that you have to drink soda or beer with grilled foods." He says wine can be a good match for most cookout fare.

Here are his tips for wine in the backyard:

■ **Relax about the glass.** The first thing to remember is that you don't need a fancy stemmed glass to enjoy wine. If you're dining outdoors even a plastic cup would do the trick.

■ **Don't worry about leftovers.** Wine will keep in the refrigerator for about 3 to 5 days. Just re-cork the wine after drinking a glass or two.

■ **Chill out.** If you prefer white wine outdoors, don't worry about an ice bucket to keep it cold. The wine will stay chilled. Some people drop an ice cube in their wine if they



prefer it colder.

■ **Mix and match.** You can serve both red and white wine with your backyard barbecue. Both types are good with grilled foods; serving both will help you find out what combinations you like best.

■ **The cork won't kill you.** The wine is not ruined if pieces of cork fall into your wine. Just remove the cork bits from the wine and enjoy as you normally would.

Finding the right wine isn't complicated. The main thing to remember when matching wine with grilled foods is to drink what you like with the foods that you like. If that means enjoying a red wine with grilled chicken or fish or white wine with a burger or a steak, that's perfectly fine.

Recipe from the Wine Market Council.

Grill

FROM PAGE 2

He used the edge of a tea-kettle's bowl as a peeler.

To squeeze lemon juice quickly: Cut the lemon in half, then push a knife into it and work it around so the juice pours out. You'll end up with the cleanest juice around.

Sprinkle the apple-ham skewers with a pinch of ground coffee — it's less sharp than, say, chili powder, it gives a nice little extra flavor and crunch." He likes to put a little olive oil in his barbecue sauce, too. The cook should: "Taste. Think. Taste again. Don't use your fingers, your skin is salty. Take a spoon — lift, taste and adjust."

He finds charcoal and gas grills work equally well, but recommends new safety habits. Always have fire baking powder next to the

grill in case of a flash fire. Throwing baking powder on it kills it straight away (milk works, too). Use tools with long handles so you don't get burned, and take care of your knives.

"When you're buying tools, take them in your hand and feel them. Look for balance. A knife is an extension of your arm — treat it well, take care of it. Wash it by hand, dry it well and put it away carefully."

Grilled Apple, Parma Ham, Walnuts and Kumquats

Recipe from chef Fritz Sonnen-schmidt

3 medium size apples, if possible Mutsu or Empire
 24 crystallized walnuts, warm (recipe follows)
 24 thin slices of Parma ham
 12 kumquats cut in half
 6 wood skewers soaked in water for about 1 hour, drained
 Olive oil

Peel apples, cut each into 8 wedges, remove pits.

Press a walnut into each apple wedge and roll in a slice of Parma ham. Alternate apple wraps with kumquats on skewers. Brush skewers with olive oil and grill for 2 minutes on each side or until tender.

Crystallized Walnuts

1/4 cup sugar
 1 cup water
 8 ounces walnuts
 1/2 to 1 tablespoon oil

Combine sugar and water and bring to a boil. Add walnuts and simmer until water has evaporated and syrup starts to caramelize. Add a few drops of oil; spread on a sheetpan.

Makes 8 ounces walnuts.
 Grilled Tea Shrimp With Sweet-

and-Sour Sauce

Recipe from chef Fritz Sonnen-schmidt

16 large shrimp
 1 teaspoon powdered green tea or 1 teaspoon fine ground tea
 Juice of 1 lemon
 2 tablespoons olive oil

Peel shrimp and place together with tea, lemon juice and olive oil. Toss and marinate for 30 minutes. Place shrimp on a medium-temperature grill; grill for 3 minutes on each side. Serve with Sweet-and-Sour Sauce and hot rice.

Sweet and Sour Sauce

3 tablespoons oil
 1 onion diced
 1/4 cup minced ginger
 1 cup sweet pickle relish
 2 cups tomato juice

2 tablespoons honey
 2 tablespoons vinegar
 1 tablespoon soy sauce
 1 tablespoon cornstarch

Salt and freshly ground pepper
 In a saucepan, heat oil; add onion and ginger and saute for 2 minutes. Add relish, tomato juice, honey, vinegar and soy sauce and bring to a boil. Mix cornstarch with a little water. Use to thicken the sauce lightly. Season with salt and pepper to taste.

Makes 2 1/2 to 3 cups.

Grilled Tofu or Tempeh and Wilted Spinach

Recipe from chef Fritz Sonnen-schmidt

1 pound hard tofu or tempeh
 1/3 cup port wine

See GRILL, Page 7

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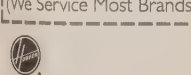
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Bicycle Helmets: Difference Between Life & Death

(NAPSA)-As warmer days make their comeback, more and more cyclists are taking to the streets. Osteopathic physicians (D.O.s) urge that safety should be a top priority among riders, specifically the need to wear a bike helmet.

Cycling remains one of the most popular outdoor activities in the United States. However, according to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, nearly one million children are treated for bicycle-related injuries in emergency rooms and other health care settings each year. Plus, an estimated 97 percent of cyclists killed in accidents were not wearing helmets.

D.O.s strongly encourage their patients to wear bicycle helmets. National statistics show that head injuries cause three out of four serious injuries and deaths that occur in bicycle accidents.

The National Safety Council provides these tips to help find a properly designed helmet:

- ✓ a stiff outer shell designed to distribute impact forces and protect against sharp objects;
- ✓ an energy-absorbing liner at least a half-inch thick;
- ✓ a chin strap and fastener that keep the helmet in place; and
- ✓ it should be lightweight, cool in hot weather and fit comfortably.

Helmets can only provide the best protection if worn properly. A helmet will be most effective if:

- ✓ it fits snugly but not tightly;
- ✓ it sits on top of riders' heads in a level position;
- ✓ it does not rock back and forth or from side to side;
- ✓ the straps are buckled; and

✓ it meets or exceeds the safety standards of the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, the American National Standards Institute, the Snell Memorial Foundation or the American Society for Testing and Materials.

As the number of bicyclists increases, the attitude toward wearing bicycle helmets needs to shift. Rather than seeing bike helmets as accessories, people need to think of them as necessities-items that can prevent injury and, in many cases, death.

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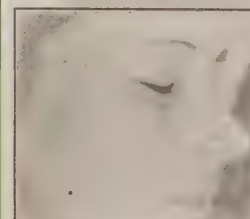
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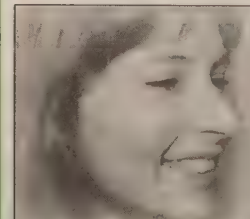
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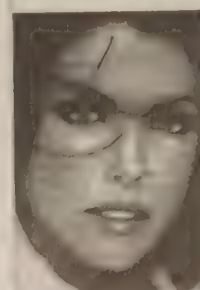
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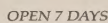
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PAGE 3

tofu or tempeh into 1½-inch cubes. Combine port wine, vinegar, orange juice, soy sauce, honey and oil well. Pour mixture over tofu; marinate 4 hours or overnight. Drain tofu and reserve marinade. Grill tofu on grill; grill for about 2 minutes on each side. Dip in marinade and add spinach and orange wedges. Cook briefly; drain, and grill for orange 1 to 2 minutes. Top spinach and orange on top with tofu and sprinkle with seeds. Serves 2 to 4 servings.

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
If a crosshatch of grill marks is desired, rotate each slice on each



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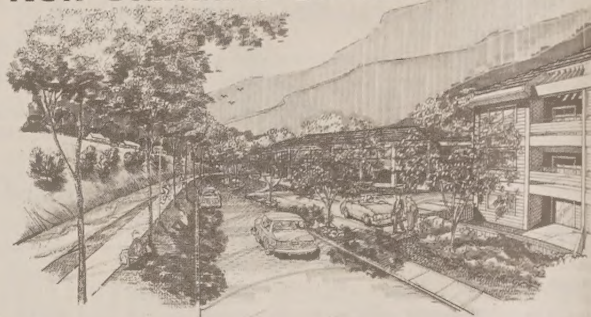
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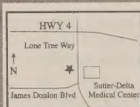


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Sablefish

FROM PAGE 1

is a lovely mound of thinly sliced smoked sable atop bits of finely diced cucumber.

Coriander-infused creme fraiche and caviar garnish the fish.

"We tried the soup with smoked salmon but it didn't have the length of flavor and texture we wanted with cucumber and yogurt," he said.

"We wanted something more chewy, more smoky and more spicy, which is the sable."

He also serves an amuse-gueule of finely chopped beets topped with smoked sable.

"In a way classic Jewish," he said, sounding rather pleased with the thought.

Boulud was curious about black cod/sable and looked it up in a French book of gastronomy.

He found a fish called aiglefin, which he said he thought was similar and came from the Norwegian fjords.

So it is not surprising to find black cod in many guises at Aquavit, the inventive Scandinavian Midtown restaurant.

Marcus Samuelsson discovered it in Asian restaurants in San Francisco and finds it a wonderful substitute for the firm-fleshed cod he knew in Sweden.

He cures it gravlax style, with much more salt and much less sugar and then serves it with red beet sorbet; he also dries it and serves it with hot and cold watermelon; and he also bakes it in a horseradish coat and accompanies it with a smoked tomato broth.

The Scandinavian connection may also explain how sablefish became black cod.

Many Norwegians, for whom cod is a staple, settled in the Pacific Northwest, and black cod, which is two feet long and can weigh up to 40 pounds but is generally less than 10 pounds today, looks a little like cod, though unrelated.

Occasionally it is also called butterfish, but butterfish lives in the Atlantic and is far smaller and rounder.

Dan Kim, an owner of Alaskan Feast in New York, which imports Alaskan seafood to the East Coast, blames the nomenclature confusion on the Alaskans.

"We have this big problem with these Alaskan guys because they have different names for the same fish," he said.

"They call it sablefish when it is smoked; black cod when it is whole; butterfish when it is filleted."

Black cod, whose true name is skiffish, a member of the Anaplopoma fimbria family, owes its richness to what it eats and where it lives, trolling the deepest waters of Alaska and the Bering Sea and the Pacific Ocean down to California, feasting on the likes of crabs and squid.

No wonder Jon Rowley, a seafood marketing expert in Seat-

tle, calls it "the aristocrat of the ocean."

Until 1995, when new rules governing the catch were implemented, there were only two 24- or 48-hour periods during the entire year when black cod could be harvested, creating a short period when it was available fresh.

Most of the catch was frozen, and most of it went to Japan, as it still does.

But now that there is an eight-month season, fresh black cod is more readily available. It costs about \$20 a pound, but the supply is not yet consistent.

David Witherell, a fisheries biologist with the North Pacific Fishery Management Council in Anchorage, which sets the quotas for the fish, said that pound for pound it is the most valuable fish in Alaska.

Fishermen are paid about \$1 a pound for wild salmon and \$3 a pound for black cod. The best fish is caught on long lines. Rowley explained, the very best in the summer and fall, when the fish feed heavily and build up oil reserves.

Knowledgeable chefs and fishermen insist that because of its high fat content, the fish freezes well and it is difficult to tell the difference between fresh and frozen.

At Nobu they use frozen fish for their signature dish. But others insist that the frozen fish is mushy.

Rod Mitchell, the owner of Browne Trading in Portland, Me., which has been selling black cod for four or five years, says most people buy frozen but he admits: "When you get it fresh there is a night and day difference in appearance and texture."

"The texture is silky in the mouth, it flakes cleanly and it has a moist flake."

Mitchell's company sells its version of the Jewish deli smoked sable, coating it in paprika just as it has been done for generations but it does not season it with garlic and its product is much firmer and drier.

Boulud uses it in his cucumber yogurt soup.

Sandy Ingber, the executive chef at the Oyster Bar in Grand Central Terminal, grew up on smoked sable.

"The first time I saw black cod and someone told me it was sablefish, I put two and two together," he said.

"I love it because of its very high fat content. It bubbles and melts in your mouth."

Like Rick Moonen at Oceana, Ingber is using black cod instead of Chilean sea bass; both chefs have taken the bass off their menus because it has been overfished. Moonen often serves black cod with Asian seasonings like scallions, ginger, soy and garlic, sometimes in a miso marinade. "It's unctuous, like candy, a very alluring fish," he said.

Laurent Tourondel at Cello uses Chinese seasonings, marinating it in rice vinegar, soy and acacia honey.

"It's actually my favorite fish because it is so full of flavor and the

fat in it makes the top very crisp," he said.

When Michael Otsuka was the chef at Thalia (he married Diane Forley recently and moved over to her restaurant, Verbena), he chose black cod over Chilean sea bass because, like so many other fishes, the bass had become boring.

"Even though Chilean sea bass is a great fish, it has become somewhat pedestrian and black cod is much less run of the mill," he said.

"If black cod were more readily available I'm sure it would be a much trendier item but people are starting to embrace it like they did Chilean sea bass 10 years ago."

Perhaps black cod will not suffer that same ignominious fate, becoming no more exciting than a piece of flounder, because it is subject to strict fishing quotas and has a limited season, from March 1 to Nov. 1.

The Alaskan catch is relatively small, only 35 million pounds a year. Halibut, for example, is 60 million pounds.

Otsuka combines smoked sable with an elegant lemon mayonnaise potato salad in a charlotte mold lined with thinly sliced Yukon Gold potatoes, a delightful summer dish that is making its way to the new Verbena menu, which will also feature fresh black cod served like a steak, roasted on a plank with a simple sauce.

The richness of black cod calls for something acidic, something spicy.

Bill Telepan at Judson Grill, who likes it because of its moistness, often pairs it with a vinaigrette or vinegar-spiked horseradish.

As a special on the current menu, black cod is covered in lemon bread crumbs and served with an olive aioli made with sharply flavored Kalamata olives.

At Esca, David Pasternak also uses horseradish with the black cod, which is seared in a hot pan, roasted in a very slow oven and arranged atop an herb-infused mixture of fingerling potatoes and fennel that have been bathed in deeply perfumed olive oil.

The fish is topped with freshly grated horseradish to which lemon juice is added.

"I love the texture, the butteriness," said Pasternak, who also likes to poach black cod in olive oil. "The skin is amazing when it gets crispy."

Lutece's take on black cod is quite different from the other restaurants. David Feau slowly cooks it in a tandoori spice-flavored brown butter and serves it with a blanquette made with creme fraiche seasoned with more of the tandoori spices.

At Prune, the chef and owner, Gabrielle Hamilton, has turned smoked sable into sable butter.

The compound butter is frozen in logs and then cut thinly on a mandoline and served over as-

paragus. "Decadent" is how Hamilton describes it.

Most everyone seems to know what sable butter is, she said. A hint, perhaps, that it is only a matter of time before other Jewish delicacies make it to center stage.

Mark Federman of Russ & Daughters has something in mind: "I'm still waiting for people to recognize the value of herring."

Black Cod with Braised Fennel and Fingerling Potatoes

Adapted from Esca

Time: 1 hour

10 ounces fingerling potatoes

Salt

8 ounces fennel, julienned

2 bay leaves

2 sprigs thyme

Juice from one lemon

4 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil

4 six-ounce pieces black cod

Scant ½ cup peeled and grated horseradish, with just enough olive oil to cover and a squeeze of lemon juice.

Preheat oven to 175 degrees. Boil potatoes in salted water until they are tender; drain and cool.

In medium saucepan, place fennel, bay leaves, thyme, 1 teaspoon lemon juice and just enough water to cover. Cover and cook for 12 minutes on low heat; remove thyme and bay leaves.

Cut potatoes lengthwise in julienne strips. Add potatoes and another teaspoon lemon juice to pan with fennel and mix with olive oil; set aside.

In a nonstick ovenproof pan, cook fish skin-side down over high heat for 3 minutes. Place in oven and roast slowly, 10 to 14 minutes. Turn over and cook 30 seconds.

Arrange fennel and potatoes on four plates and place fish pieces on top. Garnish each with one tablespoon horseradish mixture.

Yield: 4 servings.

Black Cod with Miso

Adapted from Ruby Foo's

Time: 20 minutes plus one day's

marinating

1 cup miso

1 cup sake

1 cup mirin

1 cup brown sugar

4 6-ounce black cod fillets

1 tablespoon soy sauce

1½ teaspoons Asian sesame oil

2 chopped scallions, green part only.

Combine miso, sake, mirin and sugar; set aside ½ cup. Marinate fish in mixture in refrigerator for 24 hours.

Preheat broiler; cover broiler pan with foil. Place fish on pan, skin side up, 4 to 6 inches from heat. Broil until fish is caramelized, 8 to 10 minutes.

Meanwhile, whisk soy sauce and sesame oil together. When fish is cooked, spoon reserved marinade over fish and then the soy-sesame mixture. Garnish with chopped scallion.

Yield: 4 servings.

Until 1995, when new rules governing the catch were implemented, there were only two 24- or 48-hour periods during the entire year when black cod could be harvested, creating a short period when it was available fresh.

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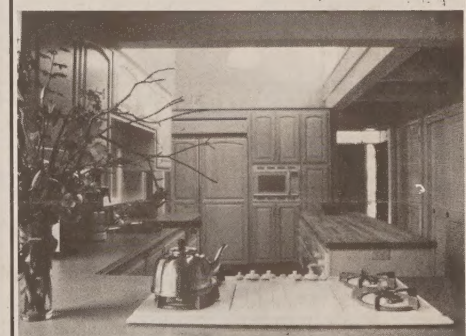
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Grilled Turkey with Basil makes light, summer dish

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.
Bobby Flay, New York chef, restaurateur and Food Network host, makes grilling look easy. His recipe for Basil Marinated Turkey with Grilled Corn and Sweet Onion Relish really is easy — whatever the cook's level of expertise.

Poultry, fish and vegetables are among the many kinds of foods people are preparing on their grills nowadays, along with the standard meats, as backyard cooks happily experiment with varied menus. These foods all have their own appeal and characteristics. "Turkey is a wonderful canvas," Flay says, "it absorbs the flavors well, especially when marinated and grilled."

"I wanted to keep this summertime recipe light so I chose fresh basil as a primary ingredient. It works well with a little bit of olive oil, garlic and fresh ground pepper, without overpowering the turkey."

Bobby Flay's Marinated Turkey with Grilled Corn and Sweet Onion Relish

1 fresh or frozen boneless breast of turkey (2 to 3 pounds)
1½ cups olive oil
12 cloves garlic, coarsely chopped
24 fresh basil leaves, coarsely chopped
¾ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

Grilled Corn and Sweet Onion Relish (recipe follows)
If frozen, thaw turkey in refrigerator.

Place turkey breast in self-closing plastic bag. Stir together oil, garlic, basil and pepper. Pour marinade over turkey and turn to coat. Close bag and marinate in refrigerator overnight.

Prepare outdoor grill for cooking by the indirect heat method. When grill is ready, remove turkey from marinade; discard marinade. (Lift and shift string netting on turkey, if turkey is packaged that way, for easier removal after cooking.) Place turkey on cooking grate over drip pan, cover grill and cook 1½ to 2¼ hours or until center internal temperature is 170 F. Let stand 10 to 15 minutes; remove netting. Slice and serve with Grilled Corn and Sweet Onion Relish.

Makes 6 to 10 servings.

Grilled Corn and Sweet Onion Relish

4 ears fresh corn, husk and silk removed
1 Vidalia onion, peeled and sliced into ¼-inch thick slices
Olive oil
Salt and freshly ground black pepper

3 tablespoons freshly squeezed lime juice
2 tablespoons finely chopped

fresh basil leaves
Heat outdoor grill on high.
Brush corn and onion with oil and season with salt and pepper. Grill corn and onion until golden brown.
Remove from grill.
Cut kernels from ears of corn

and finely chop onion.
Place corn and onion in medium bowl. Add lime juice and basil; season with salt and pepper to taste.

Recipe from Butterball. On the Net (recipes and grilling advice): <http://www.butterball.com>.



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Avoid health hazards of grilling

WASHINGTON — Grilling makes mouthwatering food but can also pose some health hazards, according to the American Institute for Cancer Research.

Cancer researchers have found that grilling and broiling cause "muscle meats" (red meat, poultry and fish) to produce cancer-causing compounds. These compounds, called HCAs (heterocyclic amines), have been shown to cause tumors in animals and possibly increase the risk of cancers of the breast, colon, stomach and prostate in humans.

Another cancer-causing substance forms when fat from meat, poultry, or fish drips onto hot coals or stones and then, via smoke and flare-ups, is deposited onto the food being grilled. The types of carcinogen formed in

this process are called PAHs, or polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons.

"There is no need to eliminate grilling and broiling completely," says Melanie Polk, AICR's director of nutrition education. "Although animal meats are the major concern, grilled vegetables and fruits, or 'blackened' dishes, in which only the seasoning is charred, present a substantially lower risk."

Polk stresses "It is still possible to enjoy barbecued meats. Marinating meats before grilling can significantly reduce the amount of carcinogen that might otherwise form." Studies have shown that even briefly marinating foods is effective in reducing the amount of HCAs — in some cases, as much as 92 to 99 percent.

Scientists aren't sure exactly how

marinades act to reduce the formation of carcinogens. There is evidence, however, that marinades may act as a barrier or that their protective powers may lie in their ingredients. Acidic ingredients, like vinegar or citrus juices, or herbs, spices and oils all seem to contribute to the prevention of HCA formation.

About one-half cup of marinade is needed for every pound of food, although large pieces may need more to adequately cover the food's surface. Total immersion is not necessary, but the food should be turned occasionally, so that all surfaces will be in contact with the marinade long enough to benefit. Use a non-metal container or a sturdy, resealable plastic bag to hold the marinating foods.

On the Net: <http://www.aicr.org>

Grilled Portobello and Vegetable Stacks

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

This recipe takes about half an hour to cook, and makes a satisfying meatless meal — mushrooms provide good texture, cheese adds extra nutrition and grilling brings out all the flavors.

2 medium-sized zucchini
2 medium-sized yellow summer squash
1 large red bell pepper
3 tablespoons olive oil
½ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon ground black pepper
8 medium-sized portobello mushroom caps, stems removed
¼ cup prepared marinara sauce
½ cup shredded fontina or mozzarella cheese

Cut each zucchini and yellow summer squash diagonally to make 4 slices. Cut pepper in 4 squares. In a large bowl, combine olive oil,

salt and pepper. Add portobello caps, zucchini, yellow squash and bell pepper; toss until well coated.

On a grill rack, place portobellos and vegetables in a single layer; grill until tender and browned, about 10 minutes, turning once.

To assemble stack: On grill side of four of the portobello caps, spoon marinara sauce and top with half of the cheese and all of the squash slices and the bell pepper, dividing evenly. Sprinkle with the remaining cheese. Return stuffed and unstuffed mushrooms to grill, grill side up; heat until cheese melts, about 5 minutes.

To serve, place an unstuffed portobello on top of a stuffed portobello, or prop it against the side.

Makes 4 servings.
Recipe from the Mushroom Council.

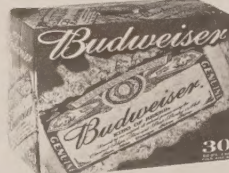
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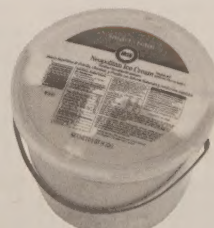


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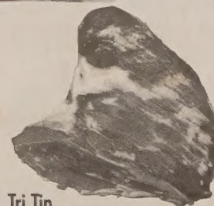
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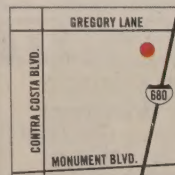
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